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Record of Decision

Central California

STANDARDS

for Rangeland Health

and

GUIDELINES

for Livestock Grazing Management

Prepared by the Bureau of Land Management California State Office June 1999

ABSTRACT

Central California

Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management

Draft () Final () Record of Decision (X) United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

- 1 Type of Action: Administrative (X) Legislative ()
- Abstract: This is the Record of Decision for the environmental impact statement (EIS) documenting the effects of adopting regional standards for rangeland health and guidelines for livestock grazing management on BLM-administered lands in parts of California and NW Nevada. This Record of Decision covers that part of Central California formerly known as the Bakersfield District.

The Preferred Alternative described in the final EIS (Alternative 5), has been chosen as the Standards and Guidelines for Central California. The changes reflected in this Decision are within the scope and analysis of the EIS.

These Standards and Guidelines will be recommended to the Secretary of the Interior for final approval. They will take effect immediately upon that approval.

This document contains the actual Decision establishing Rangeland Health Standards and Guidelines for Central California. It includes the following:

- -Decision on Plan Amendments
- -Standards and Guidelines for 'Central California (formerly the Bakersfield District)
- -Implementation Plan
- -Monitoring Plan

Bureau of Land Management California State Office

SUMMARY

This is the Record of Decision (Decision) recommending Rangeland Health Standards and Livestock Grazing Management Guidelines for Central California. These recommendations will be submitted to the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) for his approval, and will become effective immediately upon that approval.

The Decision amends BLM land use plans in Central California to include the Standards and Guidelines and directs evaluation of existing, and development of new, Desired Plant Community (DPC) standards to ensure conformance of the DPCs with the Standards.

The Decision selects the Preferred Alternative described in the final EIS (Alternative 5), with minor changes for clarification, as the Rangeland Health Standards and Guidelines to be submitted to the Secretary for his approval.

The Decision describes how the Standards and Guidelines will be implemented and how rangeland health conditions will be monitored to assure achieving the Standards.

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COVER LETTER

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1. INTRODUCTION

There were five alternatives considered and analyzed in the EIS. Alternative 1 consisted of the standards and guidelines developed by the three Resource Advisory Councils (RACs) for their representative areas. Alternative 2 consisted of the state-wide standards developed by BLM, in consultation with representatives from each of the RACs, but without concurrence by the entire RAC membership. The guidelines for Alternative 2 were essentially the same as those for Alternative 1. Alternative 3 was adoption of the national "fall-back" standards and guidelines listed in the regulations. Alternative 4 (the environmentally preferred alternative) was a rapid improvement or rapid recovery alternative developed by BLM, with suggestions from several interest groups. The Standards in Alternative 4 were the same as those in Alternative 2, except for Water Quality; however, the implementation would have occurred much faster than under other alternatives. Alternative 5 was a modified version of Alternative 1, with changes based upon suggestions and new information from the public, the RACs, and BLM.

The Decision is to select Alternative 5, with some minor changes and clarifications, all of which are within the scope of the analysis. This decision will become effective immediately upon approval by the Secretary of the Interior.

This Alternative was selected for a number of reasons, including (1) it meets the requirements of the regulations at 43 CFR 4180.1 and 4180.2 to address the principles of rangeland health; (2) it was based upon and incorporates a large portion of the regional standards and guidelines recommended by the Resource Advisory Council; (3) it incorporates some good suggestions by other agencies and the public; (4) it is based upon sound science as requested repeatedly by the different parties who commented on the process; and (5) it can be implemented within BLM's existing budgets without undue economic impacts to the grazing operators and the surrounding communities.

2. PLAN AMENDMENTS

In accordance with the grazing administration regulations at 43 CFR 4100, existing land use plans (Resource Management Plans and Management Framework Plans) have been examined to determine their compliance with the new regulations and the principles of rangeland health. In most cases, these plans do comply.

The land use plans identified below, as well as allotment management and other activity level plans, are hereby amended to include the standards and guidelines as adopted in this decision. The standards and guidelines will become effective immediately upon approval by the Secretary of the Interior and will be incorporated into the Plans at that time. Where there are plan decisions that are contrary to the new regulations, the principles of rangeland health, and the standards and guidelines, those decisions will be deleted from the plans or amended to comply.

Where "desired plant community" (DPC) objectives have been determined through the BLM planning and NEPA processes, the DPCs will be evaluated to ensure they meet the standards of rangeland health. Where DPCs have not yet been determined for a pasture or allotment, they will be developed through the BLM planning and NEPA processes to meet local and regional management objectives, and the standards of rangeland health.

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Each Field Office will make the physical changes to their land use plans prior to the next grazing season. As this is merely plan maintenance, further NEPA analysis will not be necessary to complete this administrative action.

LAND USE PLAN	PLAN DATE	FIELD OFFICE
Sierra Management Framework Plan Amendment	1988	Folsom
Hollister Resource Management Plan	1984	Hollister
Clear Creek Amendment	1995	Hollister part only
Bishop Resource Management Plan	1993	Bishop
Caliente Resource Management Plan	1997	Caliente

3. STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES for RANGELAND HEALTH in CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

The Preferred Alternative described in the final EIS (Alternative 5), with minor changes for clarification, has been chosen as the Standards and Guidelines for Central California. The changes reflected in this Decision are within the scope and analysis of the EIS. These Standards and Guidelines will take effect immediately upon their approval by the Secretary of the Interior.

These standards and guidelines were developed for, and are hereby adopted for, that part of central California formerly known as the Bakersfield District.

Preamble

The standards for rangeland health and guidelines for livestock management on Bureau of Land Management lands are written to accomplish the four fundamentals of rangeland health, insofar as the standards are affected by livestock grazing practices. Those fundamentals are:

- A. Watersheds are properly functioning;
- B. Ecological processes are in order;
- C. Water Quality complies with State standards; and,
- D. Habitats of protected species are in order.

A "standard" serves as the criterion to determine if management actions are resulting in the maintenance or attainment of healthy rangelands per the four fundamentals of rangeland health. Standards are expressions of physical and biological conditions or degree of function required for healthy, sustainable rangelands. "Guidelines" serve as the vehicle to implement management actions related to livestock grazing to accomplish rangeland health standards. Guidelines will indicate the types of grazing methods and practices determined to be appropriate to ensure that standards can be met. The public should be an active participant in the application of these standards and guidelines.

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Standards and guidelines will apply to all BLM lands within the geographic area for which they are written. Using the complete set of standards and guidelines, the local BLM range managers, in consultation with grazing permittees and other interested parties, will determine "terms and conditions" for each grazing allotment. These terms and conditions are the specific grazing practices that are appropriate for that allotment.

BLM lands vary so greatly in topography, climate, soils, water availability, size and distribution of parcels, and other factors, that local managers must have the flexibility needed to determine which grazing practices will work best in each area, and to change those practices when necessary to achieve the desired rangeland conditions.

The scientific evidence and collective knowledge of the public and rangeland managers show a wide variety of grazing effects on plants, animals and watersheds. As a result, the application of these standards and guidelines will emphasize using the best available information for a site-specific situation, and the results of historical grazing patterns should be given significant weight in any decisions about grazing practices to be followed on BLM allotments. Where historical grazing use has been compatible with meeting the standards for soils, species, riparian areas or water quality, no permanent changes should be mandated in the existing grazing patterns without substantial scientific evidence that changing the existing grazing pattern will improve the ability to achieve the standards.

For any standard, guideline, term, or condition to work, it must be capable of being achieved, based on sound science or good common sense, and be measurable, understandable, and economically feasible. There is no use in setting standards that cannot be met.

Successful application of these standards and guidelines will depend on BLM's capability to monitor rangeland conditions and implement management practices. Each Bureau office should develop a monitoring and implementation plan that sets priorities based on resource conditions, trends, and resource values.

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA STANDARDS FOR RANGELAND HEALTH

STANDARD: SOILS

Soils exhibit functional biological and physical characteristics that are appropriate to soil type, climate, and land form.

Meaning That:

Precipitation is able to enter the soil surface at appropriate rates; the soil is adequately protected against accelerated erosion; and the soil fertility is maintained at appropriate levels.

As Indicated By:

- * Ground cover (vegetation and other types of ground cover such as rock) is sufficient to protect sites from accelerated erosion.
- * Litter/residual dry matter is evident, in sufficient amounts to protect the soil surface.

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- * A diversity of plant species, with a variety of root depths, is present and plants are vigorous during the growing season.
- * There is minimal evidence of accelerated erosion in the form of rills, gullies, pedestaling of plants or rocks, flow patterns, physical soil crusts/surface sealing, or compaction layers below the soil surface
- * Biological (microphytic or cryptogamic) soil crusts are in place where appropriate.

STANDARD: SPECIES

Viable, healthy, productive, and diverse populations of native and desired species, including special status species (Federal T&E, Federal proposed, Federal candidates, BLM sensitive, or Calif. State T&E) are maintained or enhanced where appropriate.

Meaning That:

Native and other desirable plant and animals are diverse, vigorous, able to reproduce and support the hydrologic cycle, nutrient cycles, and energy flows over space and time.

As Indicated By:

- * Wildlife habitats include seral stages, vegetation structure, and patch size to promote diverse and viable wildlife populations.
- * A variety of age classes are present for most perennial plant species.
- * Plant vigor is adequate to maintain desirable plants and ensure reproduction and recruitment of plants when favorable climatic events occur.
- * The spatial distribution and cover of plant species and their habitats allows for reproduction and recovery from localized catastrophic events.
- * A diversity of plant species with various phenological stages and rooting depths are present on sites where appropriate.
- * Appropriate natural disturbances are evident.
- * Levels of non-native plants and animals are at acceptable levels.
- * Special status species present are healthy and in numbers that appear to ensure stable to increasing populations; habitat areas are large enough to support viable populations or are connected adequately with other similar habitat areas.
- * Adequate organic matter (litter and standing dead plant material) is present for site protection and decomposition to replenish soil nutrients.

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- * Where appropriate, biological soil crusts (also called microphytic or cryptogamic soil crusts) are present and not excessively fragmented.
- * Noxious and invasive species are contained at acceptable levels.

STANDARD: RIPARIAN

Riparian/wetland vegetation, structure and diversity, and stream channels and floodplains are functioning properly, and meeting regional and local management objectives.

Meaning That:

The vegetation and soils interact to capture and pass sediment, sustain infiltration, maintain the water table, stabilize the channel, sustain high water quality, and promote biodiversity appropriate to soils, climate, and landform.

As Indicated By:

<u>Vegetation Attributes</u>:

- * Vegetation cover is greater than 80% or the percentage that will protect banks and dissipate energy during high flows.
- * Age-class and structure of woody/riparian vegetation are diverse and appropriate for the site.
- * Where appropriate, shading is sufficient to provide adequate thermal regulation for fish and other riparian dependent species.
- * Where appropriate, there is adequate woody debris.
- * A diversity of plant species with various phenological stages and rooting depths is present. Root masses are sufficient to stabilize stream banks and shorelines.
- * Plant species present indicate that soil moisture characteristics are being maintained.
- * There is minimal cover of invader/shallow-rooted species.
- * Adequate organic matter (litter and standing dead plant material) is present to protect the site and to replenish soil nutrients through decomposition.
- * Point bars are vegetated.

Physical Indicators:

* Streambank stability, pool frequency, substrate sediments, stream width, and bank angles are appropriate for the stream type.

STANDARD: WATER QUALITY

Surface and groundwater complies with objectives of the Clean Water Act and other applicable water quality requirements, including meeting the California State standards.

Management Objective: For water bodies, the primary objective is to maintain the existing quality and beneficial uses of water, protect them where they are threatened (and livestock grazing activities are a contributing factor), and restore them where they are currently degraded (and livestock grazing activities are a contributing factor). This objective is of even higher priority in the following situations:

- (a) where beneficial uses of water bodies have been listed as threatened or impaired pursuant to Section 303(d) of the Federal Clean Water Act;
- (b) where aquatic habitat is present or has been present for Federal threatened or endangered, candidate, and other special status species dependent on water resources; and,
- (c) in designated water resource sensitive areas such as riparian and wetland areas.

Meaning That:

BLM will, pursuant to the Clean Water Act:

Maintain the physical, biological, and chemical integrity of waters flowing across or underlying the lands it administers;

Protect the integrity of these waters where it is currently threatened;

Insofar as is feasible, restore the integrity of these waters where it is currently impaired;

Not contribute to pollution and take action to remedy any pollution resulting from its actions that violates applicable California (including the requirements identified in Regional Basin Plans), or Tribal water quality standards or other applicable water quality requirements (e.g., requirements adopted by SWRCB or RWQCB in California, or US EPA pursuant to Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act or the Coastal Zone Reauthorization Act). Where action related to grazing management is required, such action will be taken as soon as practicable but not later than the start of the next grazing year (in accordance with 43 CFR 4180.1).

Be consistent with the non-degradation policies identified in the Regional Basin Plans in California.

Work with the State (including the Regional Water Quality Control Boards) and U.S. EPA to establish appropriate beneficial uses for public waters, establish appropriate numeric targets for

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303(d)-listed water bodies, and implement the applicable requirements to ensure that water quality on public lands meets the criteria for the designated beneficial uses of the water.

Develop and implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) approved by the SWRCB to protect and restore the quality and beneficial uses of water, and monitor both implementation and effectiveness of the BMPs. These BMPs will be developed in full consultation, coordination, and cooperation with permittees and other interests.

As Indicated By:

- * The following do not exceed the applicable requirements: chemical constituents, water temperature, nutrient loads, fecal coliform, turbidity, suspended sediment, and dissolved oxygen.
- * Achievement of the standards for riparian, wetlands, and water bodies.
- * Aquatic organisms and plants (e.g., macroinvertebrates, fish, algae, and plants) indicate support for beneficial uses.
- * Monitoring results or other data that show water quality is meeting the standard.

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA GUIDELINES FOR GRAZING MANAGEMENT:

Guideline 1: Livestock grazing operations will be conducted so that progress is made toward maintaining or promoting adequate amounts of vegetative ground cover, including standing plant material and litter to support infiltration and permeability, and maintain soil moisture storage and soil stability appropriate for the ecological sites within the management units. The ground cover should maintain soil organisms, plants, and animals to support the hydrologic and nutrient cycles, and energy flow.

Guideline 2: Implement grazing systems that regulate the timing and intensity of grazing. Continuous season-long grazing use is allowed if it has been demonstrated that it can be consistent with achieving a healthy, properly functioning ecosystem. Grazing systems should specify season of use based on plant phenology and geohydrologic processes where appropriate. On annual rangelands, mulch management should be used to define target forage use levels that will ensure that sufficient amounts of residual dry matter (RDM) or standing plant material will be maintained throughout the grazing season. Mulch levels for annual grasses should meet the requirements of Table A, whenever feasible. Mulch levels will include a "buffer" to account for RDM loss from other natural processes (decomposition, animal use, etc.). Exceptions may be approved during the green season when substantial regrowth is expected or if lower RDM levels are required to meet particular rangeland health objectives, such as reducing competition for a desired species.

Guideline 3: On Annual Range, readiness will be determined by: (1) Minimum RDM levels at the time of turnout prior to green season growth are exceeded by 200 pounds per acre; or (2) Minimum RDM levels and at least 2 inches of new growth are present in the growing season.

Guideline 4: Where appropriate, use grazing systems that maintain the presence and distribution of microsites for seed germination.

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Guideline 5: Perennial plant utilization should be limited to appropriate levels of the current year's growth as indicated in Table A, unless it has been proven that this level of use is incompatible with the continued existence of the plant.

Management changes will be implemented (e.g., reductions in stocking rate or another management change) if utilization guidelines on the average of the upland key areas across the pasture (or allotment if there is only one pasture) are exceeded for 2 consecutive years or in any 2 years out of every 5 years. In addition, at least 70% of upland key areas on the pasture (or allotment) are not to exceed maximum utilization guidelines in most years. Because of the potential long-term damage to perennial grass species associated with severe grazing, severe grazing use (>70% utilization) in any upland key area in any year will result in a management change the following year. If any particular key area fails to meet the guidelines for more than 2 consecutive years, then management action will be taken to remedy the problem in the area of the allotment that key area represents. The average (mean) utilization on key species will be estimated at each key area and used to determine if the guidelines have been met. There are indications that the median may be a better statistic to use than the mean; we will calculate both statistics from the same data sets and make a determination on which statistic to use after examining the data over a period of a few years. See Appendix 20 of the FEIS for further discussion on this issue.

For allotments not meeting or making significant progress toward meeting the standards (and for which lower utilization levels of perennial upland species would be expected to help move these allotments toward the standards), utilization data already in hand will be used to determine whether a management change is necessary. Thus, for example, if utilization on a particular key area has exceeded the thresholds of Table A for the two years previous to the approval of these standards and guidelines, a management change will be implemented prior to the first grazing year following this approval. In addition to implementing management changes that are expected to bring utilization levels within threshold values, close monitoring will follow to ensure that the grazing use levels are not exceeded during the grazing period following the management changes. If utilization levels are exceeded or expected to be exceeded during this period, a reduction or curtailment of further grazing in the area represented by the key area will be required for the remainder of the grazing season. In addition, further management changes will be implemented prior to the start of the next grazing season to bring utilization levels within thresholds.

Guideline 6: Implement grazing systems that permit existing native species to complete entire life cycles and sustain the spatial distribution of microsites necessary for seed germination at intervals sufficient to maintain the viability of the species.

Guideline 7: Use grazing systems that are compatible with the persistence of desired species. Grazing use should provide appropriate levels of plant matter that will promote the existence of desirable plants and animals.

Guideline 8: Native species are recommended for all revegetation and enhancement projects unless they are not readily available in sufficient quantities or are incapable of maintaining or achieving properly functioning conditions and biological health.

Guideline 9: Within identified deer concentration areas there will be no more than 20 percent utilization of annual growth on key browse species prior to October 1.

Guideline 10: Periods of rest from livestock grazing or other avoidable disturbances should be provided during/after episodic events (e.g., flood, fire, drought) and during critical times of plant growth needed to achieve proper functioning conditions, recovery of vegetation, or desired plant community.

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Guideline 11: Grazing management practices will allow for the reproduction of species that will maintain riparian-wetland functions, including energy dissipation, sediment capture, groundwater recharge, streambank stability, the hydrologic cycle, nutrient cycle, and energy flow.

Guideline 12: Grazing practice should maintain a minimum herbage stubble height on all stream-side, riparian and wetland areas at the end of the growing season. There should be sufficient residual stubble or regrowth at the end of the growing season to meet the requirements of plant vigor maintenance, bank protection, and sediment entrapment (Table A).

Management changes will be implemented (e.g., reductions in stocking rate or another management change) if stubble heights on the average of the key riparian areas across the pasture (or allotment if there is only one pasture) fall below the guidelines for 2 consecutive years or in any 2 years out of every 5 years. In addition, at least 70% of riparian key areas on the allotment are to exceed minimum stubble heights in most years. If any particular key area fails to meet the guidelines for more than 2 consecutive years, then management action will be taken to remedy the problem in the area of the allotment that key area represents. Because stream banks may be inadequately protected by heavy use in any one year and because stubble heights below 3 inches result in cattle shifting their preference to shrubs, stubble heights below 2 inches in any one year will require a management change in the following year.

The mean stubble height on key riparian species will be estimated at each riparian key area and used to determine if the guidelines have been met. There are indications that the median may be a better statistic to use than the mean; we will calculate both statistics from the same data sets and make a determination on which statistic to use after examining the data over a period of a few years. See Appendix 20 of the Final EIS for further discussion on this issue.

For allotments not meeting or making significant progress toward meeting the standards (and for which higher stubble would be expected to help move these allotments toward the standards), stubble height data already in hand will be used to determine whether a management change is necessary. Thus, for example, if stubble heights on a particular key area have fallen below the thresholds of Table A for the two years previous to the approval of these standards and guidelines, a management change will be implemented prior to the first grazing year following this approval. In addition to implementing management changes that are expected to bring stubble heights within threshold values, close monitoring will follow to ensure the grazing use levels are not exceeded during the grazing period following the management changes. If utilization levels are exceeded or expected to be exceeded during this period, a reduction or curtailment of further grazing in the area represented by the key area will be required for the remainder of the grazing season. In addition, further management changes will be implemented prior to the start of the next grazing season to bring utilization levels within thresholds.

Guideline 13: Water sources, wetlands and riparian areas may be fenced to reduce impacts from livestock.

Guideline 14: The development of water sources will maintain ecologic and hydrologic function and processes.

Guideline 15: Locate salt blocks and other supplemental feed well away from riparian/wetland areas.

Guideline 16: Locate new livestock handling and/or management facilities outside of riparian/wetland areas. For existing livestock handling facilities inside riparian areas, ensure that facilities do not prevent attainment of standards. Limit livestock trailing, bedding, watering, loading, and other handling efforts to those areas and times that will not retard or prevent attainment of standards.

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Table A: Forage Utilization and Mulch Management Requirements								
Precipitation	Plant Community	Slope, Elevation	Minimum Residual Dry Matter* (lbs/ac)	Maximum Utilization of Key Perennials, #, ##				
4-10 Inches	California annual grassland	<25% 25-45% >45%	200 250 350	25-40%				
10-40 Inches	California annual grassland, Oak woodlands	<25% 25-45% >45% <15%, 1000-2500' >15%, >2500'	400 600 800 700-900** 1000-1200**	30-45%				
8-30 Inches	Sagebrush grassland, semi- desert grass and shrubland, Pinyon-juniper woodland, Cool season pasture	NA	NA	30-40%				
	Coniferous forest, mountain shrubland	NA	NA	30-40%				
	Alpine tundra	NA	NA	20-30%				
	Salt Desert Shrubland	NA	NA	25-35%				
4-40 Inches	Riparian areas, wetlands	NA	4-6 inch stubble height #	35-45% herbs, 10-20% shrubs, 0-20% trees				

^{*} Minimum to be present at fall/winter green-up.

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^{**} Higher minimum is for sites that are: in unsatisfactory condition, grazed during active growth, not rested, or on steeper slopes.

[#] Stubble height and percent utilization levels are initial values that should be adjusted to consider timing of grazing use and plant phenology, resource conditions and a site's resiliency at the allotment, pasture or site-specific location. Perennial plant utilization levels and stubble heights are based on a literature review by Holechek (1988, 1991), Holechek et al. (1998) and Willoughby (see the Annotated Bibliography on Utilization in the FEIS).

^{##} On sites in unsatisfactory condition and/or trend, perennial plant utilization should be no more than 15-25% current annual growth where less than one period of rest is provided per growing season of use.

Guideline 17: Implement grazing systems that will promote compliance with the Water Quality Standards.

- d. Apply the management practices recognized and approved by the State of California as Best Management Practices (BMPs) for grazing related activities to protect and maintain water quality.
- e. In watersheds draining into water bodies that have been listed or are proposed for listing as having threatened or impaired beneficial uses, and where grazing activities may contribute to the pollutants causing such impairment, the management objective is to fully protect, enhance, and restore the beneficial uses of the water.

Guideline 18: The plan for grazing on any allotment must consider other uses (recreation, wildlife, mineral resource development, etc.) and be coordinated with other users of the public lands so that overall use does not detract from the goal of achieving rangeland health.

4. IMPLEMENTATION

BLM will fully implement the grazing standards and guidelines as directed in the rulemaking. The rule states that, "The authorized officer shall take appropriate action as soon as practicable but not later than the start of the next grazing year upon determining that grazing practices or levels of grazing use on public lands are significant factors in failing to achieve the standards and conform to the guidelines...." (43 CFR 4180.2(c)).

Determination of the "appropriate action," and the actual scheduling of the implementation, will be the responsibility of the local Field Managers. However, it will be done using the priority system described in Appendix 1.

5. ASSESSMENTS and MONITORING

Field Offices will conduct assessments of all allotments according to the priority described in Appendix 1. All allotments will be assessed within five years of the approval of these Standards and Guidelines by the Secretary of the Interior. These assessments will be done using an interdisciplinary approach, and the findings and reasons for the findings will be documented. The format and content of this documentation will be left to the discretion of the individual Field Manager. (Examples are in the Final EIS.)

Field Offices will monitor allotments according to the priority described in Appendix 1. The monitoring will be done using an interdisciplinary approach, using methods described in Appendix 2.

Rangeland health conditions will be reported annually for each grazing allotment. This information will include the determinations of rangeland health conditions through assessments and monitoring and the progress made towards meeting rangeland health standards. Specifically, for each allotment an identification will be made of what standards, if any, are not met or where significant progress is not being made toward meeting the standard; etc.; what progress has been made regarding determining and implementing needed management changes; and the results of making the management changes as determined from monitoring information. Additionally, any changes in the management categories of the allotments will be identified and an explanation of the reasons for the change will be made.

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The above information will be gathered at the Field Office which administers the respective allotment(s). A summary of this information will be consolidated for all of the allotments in the state (exclusive of the California Desert District) and made available to the public annually.

6. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT and RESPONSE to PROTESTS

BLM has had extensive public involvement throughout the process of developing the Standards and Guidelines. Early phases of this involvement were described in the Draft EIS, and in Chapter 5 of the Final EIS. Further, we have consulted extensively with the three Resource Advisory Councils(RAC) on content and wording of the Standards and Guidelines.

As stated in the Final EIS, "following the comment period on the draft EIS, the RAC members were sent copies of all of the comment letters. The RACs discussed the comments and the draft EIS in their meetings. Representatives of the three RACs then met with BLM staff in a workshop setting and made recommendations for modification of their original proposals."

Comments made by the public following the Draft EIS were individually analyzed by BLM, and responded to in the Final EIS. The Proposed Action (Alternative 5) in the Final EIS was based upon the original RAC proposals, with changes suggested by the RACs and by BLM, based upon analysis of the public comments. There were several meetings with the Susanville RAC and other interested parties prior to issuing the Final EIS because there were items in the Standards and Guidelines that caused concern to RAC members and ranchers in NE California and NW Nevada.

Following release of the Final EIS, BLM received 5 protests, two of which applied to Central California. The major concerns were that there were changes made in the Final EIS that the public had not been allowed to review in the Draft; that a protestor did not like the water quality guidelines; that there was no "no grazing" alternative; and, that the Bureau does not have enough staff to implement the Standards and Guidelines.

As a result of these protests, BLM has added some language to this ROD to clarify how the standards and guidelines will be implemented. However, no substantive changes have been made to the Central California Standards and Guidelines from that contained in the Final EIS. Based on the clarification language, three of the protestors subsequently withdrew their protests. The remaining two protests were dismissed by the Director of BLM, who sent letters to the two protestors explaining the reasons for the dismissals.

APPENDIX 1: IMPLEMENTATION

The fallback standards (43 CFR 4180.2(f)(1)) have been in effect in since August 12, 1997. An initial screening of allotments was made, based on existing information, to determine the status of each allotment with respect to meeting the fallback standards. Each allotment was placed into one of four categories as follows:

- Category 1: Areas where one or more standards are not being met, or significant progress is not being made toward meeting the standards(s), and livestock grazing is a significant contributor to the problem.
- Category 2: Areas where all standards are being met, or significant progress is being made toward meeting the standard(s).
- Category 3: Areas where the status for one or more standards is not known, or the cause of the failure to not meet the standard(s) is not known.
- Category 4: Allotments where one or more of the standards are not being met or significant progress is not being made toward meeting the standards due to causes other than (or in addition to) livestock grazing activities. (Those allotments where current livestock grazing is also a cause for not meeting the standards are included in Category 1 in addition to this category.) The authorized officer should take appropriate action based on regulation or policy; however, these actions not related to livestock grazing are outside the scope of this implementation plan and will not be addressed in this document.

An assumption has been made by the BLM field managers that, with few possible exceptions, the implementation needed for the regulatory fallback standards and guidelines will essentially be the same as for any anticipated set of final approved standards and guidelines implemented pursuant to this Record of Decision (ROD). Consequently, the categorization of allotments under the standards in this ROD is likely to be the same as the categorization under the fallback standards and guidelines. Existing allotment assessments and their resulting determinations as to category will be reviewed to ensure the determination is correct under the standards set in place by this ROD.

New allotment assessments, reviews of existing allotment assessments, and determination of allotment category will be conducted in full consultation, coordination, and cooperation with permittees and other interests.

We intend to conduct assessments on all allotments within the next 5 years. First priority for these allotment assessments will be given to those allotments where we already know or suspect one or more of the standards is not being met. These include those allotments placed in Category 1 under the fallback standards and those allotments currently in Category 3 that we have reason to believe may not be meeting standards. After these allotments have been assessed, the remaining allotments will be assessed using the BLM I, M, and C priority management system, with first priority to I, second to M, and last to C.

For those allotments where the standards are not being met (Category 1), management actions will be implemented to correct the situation prior to the next grazing season turn-out period for the allotment. The management options will be determined in full coordination, consultation, and cooperation with permittees and other interests.

Monitoring will be conducted to evaluate the progress towards improving rangeland health and to evaluate the success of the specific management measures applied.

APPLICATION OF GUIDELINES

Once the guidelines are approved by the Secretary of the Interior, they will be applicable to the management of livestock grazing on all allotments not meeting the health standards. Some guidelines will be applicable regardless of the specific rangeland health condition, as they are designed to help protect and sustain rangeland health and are not intended to be applied only to remedy problems. Many of the guidelines will need to be more specifically identified and then applied as terms and conditions of a permit or lease, based upon the specific needs for meeting rangeland health standards. There will be instances where specific terms and conditions will be applied to grazing use authorizations for reasons other than those directly related to rangeland health, such as to accommodate other resource needs and land uses or to meet administrative requirements. Examples of this may include protecting cultural resource sites, requiring a specific breed of livestock to be used that is compatible with the needs of other permittees or lessees using the same allotment, or for meeting various regulatory requirements for grazing administration purposes. In some instances, existing terms and conditions will be carried over from previously made plans and commitments, such as those identified in allotment management plans or coordinated management plans. In these instances, the terms and conditions may or may not be related to rangeland health needs.

Any terms or conditions specified for a permit or lease must be consistent with and support appropriate BLM land use plans or other land use plans applicable to the public lands. BLM will also adhere to requirements such as those identified as terms or conditions from a biological opinion for protecting the habitat of a plant or animal under the Endangered Species Act.

Terms and conditions will be applied to grazing permits, leases, or other grazing authorizations as the authorized officer (Field Manager) determines the need. The determination of what terms and conditions will be applied will be made in consultation with the respective permittees/lessees and other interested parties involved in the particular allotment. The same process will be used for making needed changes to any existing terms and conditions. Information from assessments and evaluations of monitoring data will be used to determine the management changes needed. Management options that would be expected to move allotments toward meeting the standards will be determined in full coordination, consultation, and cooperation with permittees/lessees and other interested parties.

Alternative management changes will be considered and evaluated through the NEPA process prior to making final determinations. It is anticipated that in most instances, the terms and conditions will be identified cooperatively and be agreed upon by the affected permittee/lessee and all interested parties. Where an agreement cannot be reached, then a formal decision (which is appealable) will be issued.

If reductions in permitted use are necessary to achieve the standards or meet the guidelines, the animal unit months (AUMs) by which the permitted use is reduced will be held in suspension. Once the authorized officer determines that rangeland health has recovered to an extent that all or part of the suspended permitted use can be restored, this suspended permitted use shall first be apportioned in satisfaction of suspended permitted use to the permittee(s) or lessee(s) authorized to graze in the allotment in which the forage is available (this is in accordance with 43 CFR 4110.3-1(b)).

REPORTING PROGRESS IN RANGELAND HEALTH ACHIEVEMENTS

Rangeland health conditions will be reported annually for each grazing allotment. This information will include the determinations of rangeland health conditions through assessments and monitoring and the progress made towards meeting rangeland health standards. At a minimum the report will identify, by allotment: (1) what standards, if any, are not being met; (2) whether significant progress is being made toward meeting those standards that are not currently being met; (3) the magnitude of those standards not being met, in terms such as acres, miles of stream, number of sites, etc.; (4) the progress that has been made in determining and implementing needed management changes; and (5) the results of making the management changes as determined from monitoring and assessment information. Additionally, any changes in the management categories of the allotments will be identified, accompanied by an explanation of the reasons for the change.

The above information will be gathered at the field office which administers the respective allotment(s). A summary of this information will be consolidated for all of the allotments within the EIS area and made available to the public annually.

Tables were provided in the Final EIS that showed all allotments in the State and the category to which they were assigned in 1997. Since that list was compiled, management changes have been implemented and additional assessment and monitoring work has been completed that makes those lists obsolete. When the annual report is compiled each year, an updated list of all allotments, by category, will be provided as part of the report.

Throughout all processes the public is encouraged to participate in the identification of rangeland health conditions, developing management remedies, monitoring results, and reviewing progress towards achieving rangeland health standards.

APPENDIX 2: ASSESSMENT AND MONITORING

Assessment to Determine if Allotments are Meeting Standards

"Assessment" means the analysis, synthesis, and interpretation of information, including monitoring data, to characterize the health of an allotment or other management unit. Gathering new information in the field may be necessary as part of the assessment process. "Monitoring" means the periodic gathering of information

In some cases, quantitative monitoring data, gathered over a period of years, may be essential to determine whether an area meets the standards and whether livestock grazing is a significant factor contributing to a failure to meet the standards. However, quantitative monitoring data is not always required to make these determinations nor to implement actions to improve grazing management. The preamble to the 1995 grazing regulations (BLM 1995) states that managers may "use a variety of information, including monitoring records, assessments, and knowledge of the locale." The 1995 regulations also require the manager to "reduce permitted grazing use or otherwise modify management practices...when monitoring or field observations show grazing use or patterns of use are not consistent with the provisions of 43 CFR subpart 4180" (43 CFR 4110.3-2(b); subpart 4180 includes the standards and guidelines). Changes in permitted use are to be "...supported by monitoring, field observation, ecological site inventory, or other data acceptable to the authorized officer." Therefore, actions needed to improve grazing management in order to comply with guidelines or meet standards should not be delayed solely because monitoring data are lacking. Rangelands will not be allowed to deteriorate while prolonged monitoring studies are conducted, when reliable indicators of rangeland health demonstrate a need for corrective action.

Assessments should employ the minimum information needed to determine whether the standards are being met and whether livestock grazing is a significant factor in failing to meet the standards. All resource information or data collected should be tied directly to the standards, guidelines, or resource objectives.

Field Offices will conduct assessments of all allotments according to the priority described in Appendix 1. These assessments will be done using an interdisciplinary approach, and the findings and reasons for the findings will be documented. The format and content of this documentation will be left up to individual Field Managers, but the form used by the Eagle Lake Field Office (Appendix 24 in the Final EIS) is one example of the type of documentation that could be employed.

The term "assessment," when used by itself, has the meaning described above; that is, it considers all available information, whether from inventory, monitoring, or qualitative assessments. "Qualitative assessment" refers to a particular method used to rapidly assess whether allotments or areas within allotments are meeting standards. The Proper Functioning Condition (PFC) procedure is the qualitative assessment method that is applied to riparian/wetland areas (BLM 1993b and 1994). The Qualitative Procedure to Assess Rangeland Health (Appendix 25 in the Final EIS) is the qualitative method that will be applied to upland rangelands. The use of these procedures, and their relationship to monitoring, will be discussed in more detail below.

Application of Traditional Rangeland Monitoring to Assessing Whether Standards are Being Met

Many rangeland monitoring studies have been in place and read on a regular basis by BLM personnel in California for many years. These studies involve using qualitative or quantitative procedures, or both, and often are directed at determining the condition and trend of key species in key areas. The basic types of studies, as well as the use of the key species and key area approach, are described in Chapter 3, Section 3.2.5, of the Final EIS. The purpose of these studies has primarily been to determine if management objectives relative to particular grazing allotments are being met or if the trend is toward meeting these objectives. For example, a management objective might be to increase the frequency of a key species such as squirreltail (*Elymus elymoides* ssp. *elymoides*) by 10% in Pasture A of Allotment Z in 5 years. Some method of frequency monitoring is then set up in one or more key areas in Pasture A and read on a regular basis (this could be annually but might be once every five years; in this example the frequency of monitoring would have to be at least every five years). In another example, the objective might be to increase the basal cover of the key species bluebunch wheatgrass (*Pseudoregneria spicata* ssp. *spicata*) in Pasture B of Allotment X by 5 percent over the next 6 years. A method of monitoring that measures cover is then set up in one or more key areas of Pasture B and read on a regular basis (this could be annually or on some other schedule, but must be at least every 6 years).

Management objectives have not always been directed at key species. Objectives to increase the total vegetation cover on particular pastures or allotments have also been applied, as well as objectives to decrease the cover of shrubs or trees. In both of these examples, monitoring methods are chosen that measure or estimate cover. These methods might be quantitative in nature or qualitative; the latter might involve taking photographs, either on the ground or aerially.

A second monitoring objective of traditional rangeland monitoring has been to determine the "condition and trend" of rangelands. The condition is determined by comparing the current species composition and production of a given ecological site to the species composition and production of the potential natural community of that site (see Chapter 3, Section 3.3.3 in the Final EIS for a more complete description of the process). Trend is recorded as upward, downward, or static, based on whether species composition and production are moving toward, away, or not at all, respectively, from the potential natural community. Ecological site inventory (ESI) is used to determine condition at any one point in time. A second ESI can then be used to determine trend; other monitoring studies, however, can also be used for this purpose, if they yield information on species composition.

Although much of the monitoring currently being conducted will have applicability to determining the effectiveness of implementation of the rangeland standards, some old methods will have to be modified and new methods introduced. This is because the standards require monitoring of certain rangeland attributes that are not assessed under current methodology.

Table 1 is a list of rangeland attributes that may be assessed in order to determine whether standards are being met.

Table 1. List of rangeland attributes that may be assessed in order to determine whether standards are being met, along with the actual wording of the indicator(s) to which each attribute applies (parentheses following each indicator show the standard to which it applies). Several indicators apply to more than one attribute and therefore are listed under each of the appropriate attributes.

7. Ground cover

- a. "Vegetation and other types of ground cover such as rock" (Soils)
- b. "Spatial distribution and cover of plant species and their habitats allows for reproduction and recovery from localized catastrophic events" (Species)
- c. "Vegetation cover is greater than 80% or the percentage that will protect banks and dissipate energy during high flows" (Riparian)
- d. "There is minimal cover of invader/shallow-rooted species" (Riparian)
- e. "Point bars are vegetated" (Riparian)

8. Litter/residual dry matter

- a. "Litter/residual dry matter is evident, in sufficient amounts to protect the soil surface" (Soils)
- b. "Adequate organic matter (litter and standing dead plant material) is present for site protection and decomposition to replenish soil nutrients" (Species)
- c. "Adequate organic matter (litter and standing dead plant material) is present to protect the site and to replenish soil nutrients through decomposition" (Riparian)

9. Plant species diversity

- a. "A diversity of plant species, with a variety of root depths, is present and plants are vigorous during the growing season" (Soils)
- b. "A diversity of plant species with various phenological stages and rooting depths is present on sites where appropriate" (Species)
- c. "Where appropriate, species composition contributes to the desired plant community objectives" (Species)
- d. "A diversity of plant species with various phenological stages and rooting depths is present." (Riparian)
- e. "Plant species present indicate that soil moisture characteristics are being maintained" (Riparian)

10. Plant vigor

- a. "A diversity of plant species, with a variety of root depths, is present and plants are vigorous during the growing season" (Soils)
- b. "Plant vigor is adequate to maintain desirable plants and ensure reproduction and recruitment of plants when favorable climatic events occur" (Species)

Table 1, continued

11 Soil crusts

- a. "Biological (microphytic or cryptogamic) soil crusts are in place where appropriate" (Soils)
- b. "Where appropriate, biological soil crusts (also called microphytic or cryptogamic soil crusts) are present and not excessively fragmented" (Species)

12. Plant structure

- a. "A variety of age classes are present for most perennial plant species" (Species)
- b. "Age-class and structure of woody/riparian vegetation is diverse and appropriate for the site" (Riparian)
- c. "Wildlife habitats include seral stages, vegetation structure, and patch size to promote diverse and viable wildlife populations" (Species)

13. Spatial distribution of plants and their habitats

- a. "Spatial distribution and cover of plant species and their habitats allows for reproduction and recovery from localized catastrophic events" (Species)
- b. "Wildlife habitats include seral stages, vegetation structure, and patch size to promote diverse and viable wildlife populations" (Species)

14. Natural disturbances

"Appropriate natural disturbances are evident." (Species)

15. Non-native plants and animals, including noxious and invasive species

"Levels of non-native plants and animals are at acceptable levels" (Species)

16. Special status species

"Special status species are healthy and in numbers that appear to ensure stable to increasing populations; habitat areas are large enough to support viable populations or are connected adequately with other similar habitat areas" (Species)

17. Tree and shrub canopy cover

"Where appropriate, shading is sufficient to provide adequate thermal regulation for fish and other riparian dependent species" (Riparian)

18. Woody debris

"Where appropriate, there is adequate woody debris" (Riparian)

19. Root masses

"Root masses are sufficient to stabilize stream banks and shorelines" (Riparian)

Table 1, continued

20. Streambank stability

"Streambank stability, pool frequency, substrate sediments, stream width, and bank angles are appropriate for the stream type (using Rosgen's Streambank Classification System)" (Riparian)

21. Pool frequency

"Streambank stability, pool frequency, substrate sediments, stream width, and bank angles are appropriate for the stream type (using Rosgen's Streambank Classification System)" (Riparian)

22. Substrate sediments

"Streambank stability, pool frequency, substrate sediments, stream width, and bank angles are appropriate for the stream type (using Rosgen's Streambank Classification System)" (Riparian)

23. Stream width/depth

"Streambank stability, pool frequency, substrate sediments, stream width, and bank angles are appropriate for the stream type (using Rosgen's Streambank Classification System)" (Riparian)

24. Bank angles

"Streambank stability, pool frequency, substrate sediments, stream width, and bank angles are appropriate for the stream type (using Rosgen's Streambank Classification System)" (Riparian)

25. Chemical constituents of water

"The following do not exceed the applicable requirements: chemical constituents, water temperature, nutrient loads, fecal coliform, turbidity, suspended sediment, and dissolved oxygen" (Water Quality)

26. Water temperature

- a. "The following do not exceed the applicable requirements: chemical constituents, water temperature, nutrient loads, fecal coliform, turbidity, suspended sediment, and dissolved oxygen" (Water Quality)
- b. "Where appropriate, shading is sufficient to provide adequate thermal regulation for fish and other riparian dependent species" (Riparian)

27. Nutrient loading

"The following do not exceed the applicable requirements: chemical constituents, water temperature, nutrient loads, fecal coliform, turbidity, suspended sediment, and dissolved oxygen" (Water Quality)

Table 1, continued

28. Fecal coliform

"The following do not exceed the applicable requirements: chemical constituents, water temperature, nutrient loads, fecal coliform, turbidity, suspended sediment, and dissolved oxygen" (Water Quality)

29. Turbidity

"The following do not exceed the applicable requirements: chemical constituents, water temperature, nutrient loads, fecal coliform, turbidity, suspended sediment, and dissolved oxygen" (Water Quality)

30. Suspended sediment

"The following do not exceed the applicable requirements: chemical constituents, water temperature, nutrient loads, fecal coliform, turbidity, suspended sediment, and dissolved oxygen" (Water Quality)

31. Dissolved oxygen

"The following do not exceed the applicable requirements: chemical constituents, water temperature, nutrient loads, fecal coliform, turbidity, suspended sediment, and dissolved oxygen" (Water Quality)

32. Aquatic and riparian organisms

"Aquatic organisms and plants (e.g., macroinvertebrates, fish, algae, and plants) indicate support for beneficial uses" (Water Quality)

33. Soil erosion

"There is minimal evidence of accelerated erosion in the form of rills, gullies, pedestaling of plants or rocks, flow patterns, physical soil crusts/surface sealing, or compaction layers below the soil surface" (Soils)

Monitoring of Vegetation and Physical Attributes

Vegetation monitoring (including soil crusts). Table A.22.2 in the Final EIS lists the trend monitoring methods currently in use or described in the Interagency Technical Reference, Sampling Vegetation Attributes (BLM et al. 1996a) and the plant and vegetation attributes they measure. Of the attributes listed in Table 1 in this appendix, the following can be monitored using a combination of the methods from the technical reference:

- Ground cover
- Litter/residual dry matter
- Plant species diversity
- Plant vigor
- Soil crusts
- Plant structure
- Spatial distribution of plants and their habitats

- Natural disturbances (although not specifically identified by a column heading on Table A.22.2, these can be tracked under the heading "spatial distribution")
- Non-native plants (these can be monitored by measuring or estimating density, frequency, or cover)
- Special status plants (these can be monitored by measuring or estimating density, frequency, or cover)
- Tree and shrub canopy cover

Note, however, that in some cases these attributes are not measured or estimated as part of the standard procedure. For example, the typical way in which the Daubenmire method (which estimates canopy cover in either 6 or 10 categories in a series of plots) is used yields measurements of the cover of bare ground, vegetation, litter, gravel/rock, as well as frequency and species composition. Other attributes, such as the cover of biological, physical, and chemical crusts, cryptogams, production, and vigor *can* be incorporated into the standard procedure with proper planning.

Monitoring of Guidelines Associated with Utilization, Residue, and Stubble Heights. For the reasons given in Section 3.2.5 in the Final EIS, it is important to set and monitor guidelines on utilization levels, minimum residues, and minimum stubble heights. Existing monitoring of utilization, residue, and stubble heights will continue, and new studies will be established as needed. On upland perennial rangelands not meeting the standards, utilization will be measured on key species in key areas, with the average (mean) utilization used to assess whether the portion of the allotment or pasture represented by the key area is meeting the utilization guideline (there are indications that the median may be a better statistic to use than the mean; we will calculate both statistics from the same data sets and make this determination after examining the data over a period of a few years). We recognize that residue, in terms of stubble height and litter, is a better measure of utilization in upland perennial grass communities than percent utilization, but we do not have sufficient information at this time to develop guidelines that use these attributes. We intend to investigate this matter further, however, as time and funding permit, and to eventually replace the utilization guidelines on perennial uplands (which specify percent of key species removed) with guidelines specifying minimum amounts of residue to be left. A very preliminary study proposal is given in Table 2.

Table 2. Preliminary Study Proposal: Developing Residue and Stubble Height Guidelines for Major Vegetation Types in the Great Basin

Objective: Develop upland residue and stubble height guidelines for the major vegetation types in the Great Basin

• Conduct a literature review.

This review would look at material published in peer-reviewed publications and "gray" literature as well as information collected by field offices. In addition, range scientists at universities and in other agencies (e.g., NRCS, ARS, Forest Service) would be interviewed.

• Conduct the following study.

A study would be conducted to fill in the gaps in information that are expected to exist following the literature review. Over a period of several years the residue left following known levels of utilization will be measured at several sites in different vegetation types. This will entail measuring total above ground production in ungrazed areas (using either cages or exclosures), measuring utilization after the grazing season on key species, and measuring the amount of standing and fallen dead plant material (separately) at that level of use. The stubble heights of key species will also be measured, both in grazed and ungrazed condition. Photographs will be taken both of the key species and the landscape, both in grazed and ungrazed areas. As much as possible, sites should be selected that are close to existing weather stations (NOAA, RAWS stations, etc.) so the total production can be related to the amount of precipitation received.

The study should be conducted over several years in order to show a range of residue, stubble heights, and utilization levels as related to different amounts of precipitation. This study should enable field personnel to develop either State or regional guidelines on the appropriate residue and stubble height levels that should be left following grazing.

Following is a list of the utilization and residue studies from the Interagency Technical Reference, *Utilization Studies and Residual Measurements* (BLM et al. 1996b) that may be applied to public lands within the EIS area:

Browse Utilization Methods:

- Twig Length Measurement Method
- Cole Browse Method
- Extensive Browse Method

Residue Measuring Methods

- Stubble Height Method
- Visual Obstruction Method
- Comparative Yield Method

Herbaceous Utilization Methods

- Paired Plot Method
- Ocular Estimate

- Key Species Method
- Height-Weight Method
- Actual Weight Method
- Grazed-Class Method
- Landscape Appearance Method

Exact methods to be used to monitor utilization, residue, and stubble heights will be determined by the Field Offices.

The above utilization and residue monitoring studies are usually applied to key areas (see the glossary in the Final EIS for a definition of key area and the discussion of key areas in Chapter 3, Section 3.2.5 of the Final EIS). Utilization pattern mapping is another important monitoring tool. This method entails canvassing the entire allotment or individual pasture and mapping the area into several classes based on the level of utilization (e.g., no use, light use, moderate use, and heavy use) on key species (see Chapter 3, Section 3.2.5 for more information). These studies will continue where necessary.

Actual use monitoring. Actual use studies (BLM 1984) are another form of traditional range monitoring that will continue. These studies track the actual use made by livestock in pastures and/or allotments based on the numbers of livestock and the length of time livestock are present. These numbers are usually provided by lessees/permittees but are sometimes also estimated from counts by BLM professionals. The actual use made by other herbivores such as wild horses and burros and wildlife is often estimated as well. These data are important in determining what changes should be made when objectives and standards are not being met.

Climate monitoring. It is important to consider climate when interpreting monitoring data. Climate monitoring most often consists of compiling precipitation and temperature information collected by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration at the many weather stations in the EIS area. In some cases, precipitation data are collected through the placement of rain gauges in allotments. Additionally, both temperature and precipitation data are collected from 14 Remote Automated Weather Stations (RAWS) within the EIS area.

Riparian-wetland monitoring. The vegetation attributes of riparian-wetland areas are monitored using one or more of the techniques described in Table A.22.2 in the Final EIS. The Greenline Riparian-Wetland Monitoring Method (BLM 1993a) is also used by some field offices. The following physical attributes are also monitored on some riparian-wetland areas:

- Bankfull discharge
- Sinuosity
- Riparian zone width
- Floodplain and channel characteristics (i.e., rocks, overflow channels, coarse and/or large woody debris)
- Width/depth ratio

Use of Qualitative Assessments to Determine if Standards are Being Met

As noted above, traditional range monitoring studies can help assess whether standards are being met. The standards, however, call for the assessment of indicators that are not addressed by these traditional monitoring studies. Where the status of these indicators cannot be inferred from existing monitoring information, other monitoring or assessment methods must be employed. The following qualitative

assessment procedures were developed to rapidly assess all the physical and biological components of rangeland health.

Qualitative Upland Assessment. For uplands, the qualitative assessment method will be used. Although a technical reference has not yet been finalized on the method, a draft has been prepared and field tested. The details were given in Appendix 25 in the Final EIS. Field Offices may adapt this method as necessary to meet local needs. The results of the qualitative assessment will be used in conjunction with all other available information to determine if an allotment is meeting the standards. If it is not, and does not appear to be making significant progress toward meeting the standards, and grazing has been determined to be a significant factor, changes will be made to the management of livestock grazing. To assess whether these management changes are effective in moving toward meeting the standards, monitoring will be initiated (or, if already being conducted, will be continued) that is directed toward those indicators that caused the allotment to not meet the standards. For example, if the qualitative assessment indicates that insufficient litter is present, subsequent monitoring will focus on measuring the amount of litter (either the cover of litter or the amount in weight of litter).

Qualitative Riparian/Wetland Assessment. A qualitative procedure, called proper function condition (PFC) assessment (see Appendix 23 of the Final EIS), is already in place to help assess whether riparian and wetland areas are meeting the standards (BLM 1993b and 1994). This PFC assessment has already been applied to many riparian/wetland areas within the EIS area. Its use will be continued. Just as with the upland qualitative assessment procedure, when the PFC results in one or more indicators being responsible for an allotment not meeting the standards, subsequent monitoring will focus on those indicators. For example, if the width/depth ratio is the main reason a stream is determined to be not meeting the standard of proper functioning condition, subsequent monitoring would focus on the width/depth ratio of the stream.

Wildlife Monitoring for Rangeland Health

The standards for rangeland health include a "species" standard. They also include several indicators of animal habitats and populations that are attributes of a healthy rangeland ecosystem. These indicators can be divided into those related to habitat, and those related to animal populations. The habitat indicators include habitat seral stages, vegetation structure and patch size, spatial distribution of habitats, habitat size, how habitats are connected, and the habitat's ability to support viable populations. The animal population indicators include the spatial distribution of animals, special status species numbers, stable to increasing populations, viable populations, and levels of non-native animals.

The BLM recognizes that determining the biodiversity health for each allotment is an impossible task involving the gathering of species-specific data at many locations and scales. However, a more achievable option is to design monitoring programs that evaluate ecosystem components, structures and processes as indicators of a habitat's *capability* to support healthy animal communities. We would then rely on focused studies to more directly monitor species of management concern.

There are different scales of monitoring and management to evaluate the relationships between habitat management from livestock grazing and animal populations. It is critical to evaluate the assumptions that habitat management at the allotment (or pasture) level will actually affect animal presence and abundance at the monitoring site(s). It is necessary to determine the appropriate scale of monitoring: coarse scale regional monitoring of several allotments for some animal community indicators; fine scale monitoring at the allotment level for some special status, game animals, and keystone species; and site-specific scale for some special status species and ecosystem health indicators that are restricted to very small habitat areas. Monitoring plans should consider these issues of scale when designing allotment monitoring programs.

Habitat mapping and vegetation monitoring would usually suffice to evaluate whether the allotments are providing *adequate opportunities* for wildlife communities in meeting the standards. Spot checking for selected species at the appropriate habitats over several allotments would evaluate rangeland health for many species. At a finer scale of analysis, population censuses at the allotment scale may be needed to determine if the standards are being met. This finer scale monitoring would be directed at special status animals or at species with a very restricted habitat requirement as a rangeland health indicator.

Most allotment monitoring will evaluate the habitat capability for species of management concern. Vegetation characteristics of habitat structure (for example, ground cover, vertical layering, form of trees and shrubs), plant composition, age structure of plants (young, reproducing, old, or decadent trees or shrubs), plant vigor, and the distribution of plant communities across the landscape will be the focus of BLM's monitoring.

Field assessments should emphasize the use of habitat quality checklists to identify significant problems at the appropriate scale (allotment or landscape levels). These checklists can be designed to evaluate habitat quality for a particular species, group of species, or general animal community composition. The elements of such a checklist are given in Table 3. More focused studies or monitoring protocols may be developed where habitat monitoring indicates standards are not being met and where management priority is high.

The BLM will consider existing information on soils, habitats, scientific literature, historic records, fire history, and disturbance regimes to assess habitat capability. When more detailed information regarding a particular species is required, wildlife information systems and species records may be used to conduct assessments of habitat quality for animals of management concern. The California Wildlife Habitat Relationships System (CWHR) and Habitat Evaluation Procedures (HEP) models may be used for these assessments. These models are based on the assumptions that through habitat assessments, habitat capability (quality) for a particular species or group of species can be determined. The California Natural Diversity Data Base will be used to help assess the significance of BLM actions on special status animal species and rare plant communities.

The rangeland health indicators for animal (wildlife) populations cannot be assessed separately for each species. Evaluating animal numbers and distributions for each species would require an extensive amount of monitoring of hundreds of animal species, a task far beyond the capability of the BLM and our State and private management partners. Instead, monitoring must be focused on a subset of animal "indicator" species that represent wildlife communities and populations in general as indicators of ecosystem health. While this method of monitoring has been criticized as flawed since each species has its own niche in the ecosystem that cannot be represented by another species, this approach gives the BLM the opportunity to focus wildlife monitoring within our capability. The indicator species may be threatened or endangered, game animals, species of regional or special concern, keystone species, abundant, or rare. The selection of the indicator species will depend on the allotment management objectives, land use plan objectives, and/or BLM commitments to regional plans. The monitoring of the indicator species may include general distribution or abundance surveys or more focused research to better evaluate the relationships between the animals and their habitats and grazing effects. In many cases, data collection may not be required within each allotment, but across the landscape in habitats with similar characteristics.

Table 3. Elements of a Biodiversity and Species Checklist for Wildlife.

Habitats

CWHR Habitats and seral stage(es) present:

Habitat composition and seral stages related to management objectives:

Seral stages meet management objectives

Plant community composition indicates good rangeland health

Native species present at acceptable levels

Non-native species at acceptable levels

Invasive weeds at acceptable levels

Habitat structure related to management objectives:

Plant cover is adequate, within natural range

Plant height adequate: herbaceous shrub trees

Plant density is adequate

Plants distributed normally

Ground cover is within normal range

Age-class indicates community maintenance

Form-class indicates normal growth characteristics

Distribution of Habitats across landscape:

Patch size is adequate

Fragmentation is not excessive

Habitats are connected within site capability

Species

Management indicators selected:

Habitats meet requirements of indicator species:

Elements are considered acceptable:

Elements lacking:

Key management areas present:

Listed species habitats

Riparian

Wetlands

Seasonal ranges (winter, migratory, calving/fawning, etc)

Breeding/nesting sites

Table 3. cont.

Focused Studies

Focused studies in progress:

Focused studies needed:

Evaluation:

Habitats are meeting management objectives

Habitats promote diverse and viable wildlife populations

Seral stages present Composition Structure Distribution

Habitats can withstand catastrophic events (flood/fire/windstorm)

Species present indicate healthy ecosystem function

Habitats meeting species/diversity standards

Habitats not meeting species/diversity standards

Livestock grazing/management is (is not) significant factor

Management changes needed to meet standards

Water Quality Assessment and Monitoring

Most often, when riparian areas and wetlands are healthy, the quality of water for most beneficial uses meets standards. Many of the attributes assessed and monitored for riparian and wetland areas also affect the quality of the water, at least indirectly. There are exceptions, however, where this may not always be true, particularly with regard to the chemistry and physical properties of the water. Biological assessments and monitoring of aquatic organisms in water bodies serve to identify important attributes reflecting the quality of water for many beneficial uses and will be used when it is determined that the quality of the water may be in question.

In most situations BLM will depend upon the State and Regional water quality agencies to either identify, or assist BLM in identifying, where water quality is impaired or has a high probability of being impaired. For those areas where livestock grazing activities on public land are known to cause or are suspected of causing water quality impairment, BLM will closely coordinate with these agencies in obtaining any needed water quality monitoring and assessment information. Where sufficient information is not available, BLM will also closely coordinate with these agencies in the selection and design of the attributes to be assessed and monitored by BLM. Since the states have primary responsibility and primacy regarding the Clean Water Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act, it is important that any water quality assessment or monitoring information obtained by BLM meet the acceptance of those state agencies responsible for identifying the specific requirements of those Acts.

Effectiveness Monitoring of Guidelines

Effectiveness monitoring is used to evaluate whether a particular activity, when carried out as planned, results in the desired effect (MacDonald et al. 1991). In the context of rangeland standards and guidelines, effectiveness monitoring will be used to evaluate whether guidelines, if followed, result in either meeting or making progress toward meeting the standards. This type of monitoring will be employed when the other types of monitoring and assessment discussed in this appendix determine that progress is not being made toward meeting standards despite compliance with guidelines. For example, a grazing system is implemented in order to move an allotment toward meeting standards, but after five years of monitoring no progress is detected. The management system will then be evaluated to determine why it is not producing the desired effects and changed accordingly. Utilization and stubble height guidelines provide another example. If, after several years of compliance with these guidelines, allotments are not moving toward meeting standards, these guidelines will be evaluated and supplanted by new ones as appropriate.

Application of New Technology to Monitor and Assess Rangeland Health

Traditional transect-based techniques for measuring vegetation and other indicators of rangeland health provide detailed information at a plot level. Care must be used when using plot-based measurements to characterize large areas because of problems in extrapolating information from small samples to large areas. Methods for assessing rangeland health at multiple scales are currently in their infancy. The use of remotely-sensed data, primarily satellite imagery, will hopefully become a rapid and inexpensive method for measuring rangeland health on larger areas.

One pilot effort recently initiated in the northeastern portion of the EIS area is a cooperative project between BLM, the National Resource Conservation Service, and the Forest Service's Pacific Northwest Experiment Station. It involves the transitioning from traditional Soil Surveys to Resource Surveys, which are multi-resource, map-based surveys of soil, vegetation, water, and wildlife characteristics. Part of the project will include development of a set of tools that will be designed to assess rangeland health at multiple scales and areal extent.

As new methodologies such as this one are developed, they will be applied to monitoring and assessing rangeland health standards within the EIS area.

Monitoring and Assessment Plans

Each Field Office will develop a plan that will direct its monitoring and assessment activities relative to making determinations on whether standards are being met, whether progress is being made toward meeting the standards if they are not currently being met, and whether livestock grazing is the reason for standards not being met. These plans need not be elaborate, but at a minimum they will include a list of the attributes that will be monitored, the monitoring methods that will be used (with reference to a complete description of the method), the allotments that will be monitored using these methods, the frequency at which the allotments will be monitored, and how often interdisciplinary assessments will be made of all the information collected (including monitoring data, qualitative assessment information, inventory data, etc.). A monitoring and assessment schedule will also be included. These monitoring and assessment plans will be made available to all interested parties.

REFERENCES

[Decision] Reference Section – Page 1

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[Decision] Reference Section – Page 2

APPENDIX F-2

Specific Local Livestock Management Guidelines - Alternative A

Local guidelines were established to describe the types of livestock grazing management actions that are appropriate and commonly applied within the Bakersfield FO to ensure that the resource objectives and the standards for rangeland and ecosystem health could be met while authorizing livestock grazing. These local guidelines correlate with the Central California Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management but are generally more specific or more stringent. Applying these guidelines to appropriate grazing allotments occurs with consultation of affected grazing lessees/permittees. These guidelines are incorporated into the terms and conditions of each authorization, as appropriate.

ALLOTMENT LOCATION	SPECIFIC RESOURCE	GUIDELINE
Within San Joaquin Valley listed species habitat as shown on map.	Mulch readiness	500 pounds per acre and two inches of green growth, or 700 pounds per acre without green growth.
	Mulch threshold	500 pounds per acre
	Saltbush scrub	December 1-May 31 season of use <u>or</u> meets form class, foliage density, and reproductive uniformity criteria.
Riparian areas as shown on implementation table.	Poor to fair condition	November1-May 31 season of use and apply the Central California Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management.
	Good to excellent condition	Maintain current season of use and apply the Central California Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management.
Known population of California jewelflower (Caulanthus californicus)		No grazing unless in approved study or research shows grazing beneficial.
High potential habitat for California jewelflower (Caulanthus californicus)		No grazing during critical flowering period February 15- April 30.
Known population of San Joaquin woolly threads (Monolopia <u>congdonii</u>)		No grazing unless approved study or research shows grazing beneficial. Grazing may be allowed outside a study with USFWS approval.
Known population of Kern mallow (<i>Eremalche kernensis</i>)		No grazing unless in approved study or research shows grazing not detrimental.
Known population of Hoover's woolly star (<i>Eriastrum hooveri</i>)		No special restrictions.
Known occurrence of GKR (Giant Kangaroo Rat) as shown on implementation table.		No grazing during haystacking (April 1- June 15) in certain years.
If other species become listed		Prescription that takes into account specific species requirements.

Specific Local Livestock Management Guidelines - Alternative B and E

Local guidelines were established to describe the types of livestock grazing management actions that are appropriate and commonly applied within the Bakersfield FO to ensure that the resource objectives and the standards for rangeland and ecosystem health could be met while authorizing livestock grazing. These local guidelines correlate with the Central California Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management but are generally more specific or more stringent. Applying these guidelines to appropriate grazing allotments occurs with consultation of affected grazing lessees/permittees. These guidelines are incorporated into the terms and conditions of each authorization, as appropriate.

ALLOTMENT	SPECIFIC	GUIDELINE
LOCATION	RESOURCE	
Within San Joaquin Valley listed species habitat.	Mulch Readiness Mulch Threshold	500 lbs/ac. and 2" green growth, or 700 lbs/ac. without green growth. 500 lbs/ac.
	Saltbush Scrub	Dec.1-May 31 season of use or meets form class, foliage density, and reproductive uniformity criteria.
Riparian areas.	Poor-Fair condition Good-Excellent condition	Nov.1-May 31 season of use and apply the Central CA Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management. Maintain current season of use and apply the Central CA Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management.
Known population of California jewelflower, Caulanthus californicus.		No grazing unless in approved study or research show grazing beneficial.
Known population of San Joaquin woolly threads, <i>Monolopia <u>congdonii</u></i> .		Apply the Central CA Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management.
Known population of Kern mallow, <i>Eremalche kernensis</i> .		No grazing unless in approved study or research shows grazing beneficial.
Known population of Hoover's woolly star, <i>Eriastrum hooveri</i> .		Apply the Central CA Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management.
Known population of Shevock's monkeyflower, <i>Mimulus shevockii</i> .		No grazing.
Known occurrence of Kern primrose sphinx moth.		No grazing.
Known occurrence of Tehachapi slender salamander.		Apply the Central CA Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management.
if other species become listed;		Prescription that takes into account specific species requirements.

Specific Local Livestock Management Guidelines - Alternative C

Local guidelines were established to describe the types of livestock grazing management actions that are appropriate and commonly applied within the Bakersfield FO to ensure that the resource objectives and the standards for rangeland and ecosystem health could be met while authorizing livestock grazing. These local guidelines correlate with the Central California Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management but are generally more specific or more stringent. Applying these guidelines to appropriate grazing allotments occurs with consultation of affected grazing lessees/permittees. These guidelines are incorporated into the terms and conditions of each authorization, as appropriate.

ALLOTMENT LOCATION	SPECIFIC RESOURCE	GUIDELINE
Within San Joaquin Valley listed species habitat.	Mulch Readiness	500 lbs/ac. and 2" green growth, or 700 lbs/ac. without green growth.
	Mulch Threshold	500 lbs/ac.
	Saltbush Scrub	Dec.1-May 31 season of use or meets form class, foliage density, and reproductive uniformity criteria.
Riparian areas.	Poor-Fair condition	No grazing. Use exclusionary fencing if necessary.
	Good-Excellent condition	No grazing. Use exclusionary fencing if necessary.
Known population of California jewelflower, Caulanthus californicus		No grazing unless in approved study or research show grazing beneficial.
Known population of San Joaquin woolly threads, Monolopia congdonii		Apply the Central CA Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management.
Known population of Kern mallow, <i>Eremalche kernensis</i>		No grazing unless in approved study or research shows grazing beneficial.
Known population of Hoover's woolly star, <i>Eriastrum hooveri</i>		Apply the Central CA Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management.
Known population of Shevock's monkeyflower, <i>Mimulus shevockii</i> .		No grazing.
Known occurrence of Kern primrose sphinx moth		No grazing.
Known occurrence of Tehachapi slender salamander		No grazing.
if other species become listed		Prescription that takes into account specific species requirements.

ASSESSMENT OF RANGELAND HEALTH STANDARDS, CONTRIBUTING FACTORS AND APPROPRIATE ACTIONS

This form documents, for the indicated area: (1) determinations and supporting rationale regarding if fundamental rangeland health conditions cited in 43 CFR 4180.1 exist in these areas; (2) determinations, in cases where one or more conditions of fundamental rangeland health do exist, regarding the standards that are/ are not achieved; (3) determinations, in those cases where one or more standards are not achieved, regarding the contributing factor(s) that is (are) preventing standard(s) achievement or is (are)preventing significant progress towards its (their) achievement; and, (4) the information that was examined that support these determinations.

Indicate the date(s) or period the assessment occurred:	
Authorized season of use:	
<u>IDENTIFICATION OF RELEVANT AREA:</u> Describe and indicate the area where these determinations and rationale apply:	
Landscape (identify by planning area, groups of management units, or by watershed:	
Management Unit (allotment or pasture - list name / no. / acres):	
Stratification (Specific area of Management Unit with unique resources where assessment is a	pplicable):
Rationale for choosing Stratification and Key Species:	
Approximate size in acres and % of Management Unit (allot or pasture) or linear length if lotic riparian:	
Number of Strata for this management unit	
BLM STAFF PARTICIPANTS:	
NAMES POSITION	
Rangeland Management Spec Wildlife Biologist Botanist	<u>ialist</u>

DOCUMENTATION OF THE INVOLVEMENT OF PERMITTEES, STATE AGENCIES AND THE INTERESTED PUBLIC IN MAKING STANDARDS CONFORMANCE AND CONTRIBUTING FACTORS DETERMINATIONS Indicate the occurrence of public participation (e.g. permittee, interested public, other Federal or State /local agency), or opportunities for public participation that pertains to the review of standards achievement and contributing factors (who, when, and conversation or meeting summary):

SUMMARY OF STANDARDS ACHIEVEMENT DETERMINATION AND RATIONALE

As of the date of the completion of this form, a field examination of the information listed above indicated the following with regard to standards achievement for the area identified:

	etermination on Standard Achievement (check appropriate box for each standard)
Soils	☐ Met / ☐ Not met, but progressing towards / ☐ Not met and not progressing towards / ☐ N/A Rationale:
	Magnitude: Acres not meeting: % allot.: % pasture: Are livestock a significant factor: Yes/ No. Explain or summarize other contributing factors
Species	☐ Met / ☐ Not met, but progressing towards / ☐ Not met and not progressing towards / ☐ N/A Rationale:
	Magnitude: Acres not meeting: % allot.: % pasture: Are livestock a significant factor: Yes/ No. Explain or summarize other contributing factors:
Riparian	☐ Met / ☐ Not met, but progressing towards / ☐ Not met and not progressing towards / ☐ N/A Rationale:
	Magnitude: Acres not meeting: % allot.: % pasture: Are livestock a significant factor: Yes/ No. Explain or summarize other contributing factors:
Water Quality	☐ Met / ☐ Not met, but progressing towards / ☐ Not met and not progressing towards / ☐ N/A Rationale:
	Magnitude: Acres not meeting: % allot.: % pasture: Are livestock a significant factor: Yes/ No. Explain or summarize other contributing factors:
Management Recomme	endations/ Rationale:
I concur with this deter	rmination and the management recommendations provided.
Field Office Manager: _	Date:

STANDARDS ASSESSMENT BASE INFORMATION

STANDARD:	SOILS
Soils exhibit function	nal biological and physical characteristics that are appropriate to soil type, climate, and landform.
_	ecipitation is able to enter the soil surface at appropriate rates; the soil is adequately protected against accelerated fertility is maintained at appropriate levels.
Site Data: Soil Map 1	Unit: Soil Description:
Healthy, productive Federal candidates, I Meaning That : Na	SPECIES and diverse populations of native species, including special status species (Federal T&E, Federal proposed, BLM sensitive, or Calif. State T&E) are maintained or enhanced where appropriate. tive and other desirable plant and animals are diverse, vigorous, able to reproduce and support the hydrologic and energy flows over space and time.
Plant Community(ie	s): (Holland)
CWHR Habitat/Staș	ge:
Indicator Species:	
Key Species Manage	ment Area?:
Habitat Elements Co	onsidered:
Focused Studies:(on	going? needed?)
Riparian/wetland ve toward, functioning Meaning That : Th	RIPARIAN getation, structure and diversity and stream channels and floodplains are, or are making significant progress properly and achieving an advanced ecological status. e vegetation and soils interact to capture and pass sediment, sustain infiltration, maintain the water table, stabilize high water quality, and promote biodiversity appropriate to soils, climate, and landform.
Stream Habitat Com	munity:
Ecological/Seral Sta	ges:
Surface and groundy Meaning That: BL Nevada water quality water quality to wate Surface and groundy	WATER QUALITY water quality complies with California, or other appropriate (e.g. Nevada or Tribal) water quality standards. Mactions do not contribute to pollution that violates the quantitative or narrative standards of the California and standards (WQS). Approved Best Management Practices (BMPs) are used to protect water quality or restore or bodies not fully supporting designated beneficial uses, e.g., water quality limited segments. Water complies with objectives of the Clean Water Act and other applicable water quality requirements, including and ards within the respective boundaries of the States of California and Nevada.
Watershed:	CWA 303(d) impaired water body: Yes/ No
CURRENT CLIM	ATIC CONDITIONS

Standard Indicator	Applicable Standards (un-shaded) and Determination (write Met; Not met; N/A)			
	Soils	Species	Riparian	Water Quality
Is ground cover (vegetation and other ground cover such as rock) sufficient to protect sites from accelerated erosion?				
Is adequate organic matter (litter/RDM & standing plant material) evident in sufficient amounts to protect the soil surface and replenish soil nutrients through decomposition?				
Are a diversity of plant species, with a variety rooting depths present?				
Is there minimal evidence of accelerated erosion in the form of rills, gullies, pedestaling of plants or rocks, flow patterns, physical soil crusts/surface sealing, or compaction layers below the soil surface?				
Are biological (microphytic,cryptogamic) soil crusts in place where appropriate and not excessively fragmented?				
Where appropriate, does species composition contribute to desired plant community objectives?				
Is age-class and structure of woody/ riparian/ or perennial vegetation diverse and appropriate for the site?				
	Is ground cover (vegetation and other ground cover such as rock) sufficient to protect sites from accelerated erosion? Is adequate organic matter (litter/RDM & standing plant material) evident in sufficient amounts to protect the soil surface and replenish soil nutrients through decomposition? Are a diversity of plant species, with a variety rooting depths present? Is there minimal evidence of accelerated erosion in the form of rills, gullies, pedestaling of plants or rocks, flow patterns, physical soil crusts/ surface sealing, or compaction layers below the soil surface? Are biological (microphytic,cryptogamic) soil crusts in place where appropriate and not excessively fragmented? Where appropriate, does species composition contribute to desired plant community objectives? Is age-class and structure of woody/ riparian/ or perennial vegetation diverse and appropriate	Is ground cover (vegetation and other ground cover such as rock) sufficient to protect sites from accelerated erosion? Is adequate organic matter (litter/RDM & standing plant material) evident in sufficient amounts to protect the soil surface and replenish soil nutrients through decomposition? Are a diversity of plant species, with a variety rooting depths present? Is there minimal evidence of accelerated erosion in the form of rills, gullies, pedestaling of plants or rocks, flow patterns, physical soil crusts/ surface sealing, or compaction layers below the soil surface? Are biological (microphytic,cryptogamic) soil crusts in place where appropriate and not excessively fragmented? Where appropriate, does species composition contribute to desired plant community objectives? Is age-class and structure of woody/ riparian/ or perennial vegetation diverse and appropriate	Is ground cover (vegetation and other ground cover such as rock) sufficient to protect sites from accelerated erosion? Is adequate organic matter (litter/RDM & standing plant material) evident in sufficient amounts to protect the soil surface and replenish soil nutrients through decomposition? Are a diversity of plant species, with a variety rooting depths present? Is there minimal evidence of accelerated erosion in the form of rills, gullies, pedestaling of plants or rocks, flow patterns, physical soil crusts/ surface sealing, or compaction layers below the soil surface? Are biological (microphytic,cryptogamic) soil crusts in place where appropriate and not excessively fragmented? Where appropriate, does species composition contribute to desired plant community objectives? Is age-class and structure of woody/ riparian/ or perennial vegetation diverse and appropriate	Determination (write Met; Not m Soils Species Riparian

Description of resources/ Rationale for Determination	Standard Indicator	Applicable Standards (un-shaded) and Determination (write Met; Not met; N/A)			
		Soils	Species	Riparian	Water Quality
VIGOR: (Good=growing/reproducing, Fair=Not uniform/consistent, Poor=most stunted Spp: Good Fair Poor Spp: Good Fair Poor Spp: Good Fair Poor Why? FORM:(Good=normal, Fair=developing abnormal, Poor=Most in abnormal) Spp: Good Fair Poor	Is plant vigor adequate to maintain desirable plants and ensure reproduction and recruitment of plants when favorable climatic events occur?				
Spp: Good Fair Poor Spp: Good Fair Poor Why?					
Describe distribution of plant species and habitats: (Well distributed; becoming fragmented; clumped with many bare areas) Spp: Even/ Fragmented/ Clumped Spp: Even/ Fragmented/ Clumped Spp: Even/ Fragmented/ Clumped	Does the spatial distribution and cover of plant species and their habitats allow for reproduction and recovery from localized catastrophic events?				
Describe germination microsites for key species: Present across area; Degraded microsites; Germination/seedlings inhibited	Are germination microsites for key species present?				
Natural disturbances noted:	Is appropriate. natural disturbance evident?				
Any non-native plants?: Spp: Acceptable? Yes No Spp: Acceptable? Yes No	Are levels of non-native plants and animals at acceptable levels?				
Any noxious/ invasive weeds? Spp:% Cover Spp:% Cover	Are noxious and invasive species at acceptable levels?				

Description of resources/ Rationale for Determination	Standard Indicator	Applicable Standards (un-shaded) and Determination (write Met; Not met; N/A)			
		Soils	Species	Riparian	Water Quality
Any special status species? SSS: Up/ Down/ Stable ? Habitat: Good/ Fair/ Poor Connected: Yes/ No Why?	Are special status species present, healthy and in numbers that appear to ensure stable to increasing populations? Are habitat areas large enough to support viable populations or connected adequately with other similar habitat areas?				
SSS: Up/ Down/ Stable ? Habitat:Good/ Fair/ Poor Connected: Yes/ No Why?	attas:				
SSS: Up/ Down/ Stable ? Habitat: Good/ Fair/ Poor Connected: Yes/ No Why?					
Wildlife habitat: Seral Stage: Appropriate? Yes/ No Structure: Good/ Fair/ Poor, Why?	Do wildlife habitats include seral stages, vegetation structure, and patch size promoting diverse, viable wildlife pops?				
Patch size: Adequate/ Inadequate					
(see PFC checklist, TR 1737-9) % habitat PFC % habitat At Risk (Up, Down, Static) % habitat Non-Functional	Are Riparian/Wetland Habitat(s) in Proper Functioning Condition?				
Describe cover of riparian banks:	Is vegetation cover >80% or the percentage that will protect banks and dissipate energy during high flows?				
Describe shading of riparian area: Herbs: Yes/ No Shrubs: Yes/ No Trees: Yes/ No	Where appropriate., is shading sufficient to provide adequate thermal regulation for fish and other riparian dependent species?				
Describe aquatic organisms and plants: Any invertebrates?: Yes/ No	Do aquatic organisms and plants (macro-invertebrates, fish, algae and plants) indicate support for beneficial uses?				
Do they indicate: Good Quality/Poor Quality					
Fish: Yes/No Algae: Yes/No					
Is Riparian habitat quality Acceptable or Unacceptable? (see riparian standards)	Does Riparian Habitat quality contribute to beneficial uses?				

Lotic Area Standard Proper Functioning Condition Checklist

Name of Riparian-Wetland Area:				
Date:	Segment/ Reach ID:	Miles:		
ID Team Observers:				

Yes	No	N/A		HYDROLOGIC		
			1)	Floodplain inundated in "relatively frequent" events (1-3 years)		
			2)	Active/stable beaver dams		
			3)	Sinuosity, width/depth ratio, and gradient are in balance with the landscape setting (i.e., landform, geology, and bioclimatic region)		
			4)	Riparian zone is widening or has achieved potential extent		
			5)	Upland watershed not contributing to riparian degradation		

Yes	No	N/A		VEGETATIVE
			6)	Diverse age-class distribution (recruitment for maintenance/recovery)
			7)	Diverse composition of vegetation (for maintenance/recovery)
			8)	Species present indicate maintenance of riparian soil moisture characteristics
			9)	Streambank vegetation is comprised of those plants or plant communities that have root masses capable of withstanding high streamflow events
			10)	Riparian plants exhibit high vigor
			11)	Adequate vegetative cover present to protect banks and dissipate energy during high flows
			12)	Plant communities in the riparian area are an adequate source of coarse and/or large woody debris

Yes	No	N/A	SOILS - EROSION DEPOSITION
			13) Floodplain and channel characteristics (i.e. rocks, overflow channels, coarse and/or large woody debris) adequate to dissipate energy
			14) Point bars are revegetating
			15) Lateral stream movement is associated with natural sinuosity
			16) System is vertically stable
			17) Stream is in balance with the water and sediment being supplied by the watershed (i.e. no excessive erosion or deposition)

Remarks

Summary Determination

Does the stream . . .

- Dissipate stream energy associated with high water flows, thereby reducing erosion and improving water quality?
- Filter sediment, capture bedload, and aid in floodplain development?
- Improve flood-water retention and ground water recharge?
- Develop root masses that stabilize streambanks against cutting action?

,	ŭ ŭ
Functional Rating:	
Trend for Functional - At Risk:	
Upward Downward Not Apparent	
Are factors contributing to unacceptabl No	e conditions outside the control of the manager? Yes
If yes, what are those factors?	
Flow regulations Mining activities Upstream channel conditions Channelization Road encroachment Oil field water discharge Augmented flows	
Other (specify)	(Revised 27 June 2000)

Lentic Area Standard Proper Functioning Condition Checklist

Name of Riparian-We	etland Area:		
Date:	Area/ Segment ID:	Acres:	
ID Team Observers:			

Yes	No	N/A	HYDROLOGIC
			Riparian-wetland area is saturated at or near the surface or inundated in "relatively frequent" events
			2) Fluctuation of water levels is not excessive
			3) Riparian-wetland are is enlarging or has achieved potential extent
			4) Upland watershed is not contributing to riparian-wetland degradation
			5) Water quality is sufficient to support riparian-wetland plants
			6) Natural surface or subsurface flow patterns are not altered by disturbance (i.e., hoof action, dams, dikes, trails, roads, rills, gullies, drilling activities)
			Structure accommodates safe passage of flows (e.g., no headcut affecting dam or spillway)

Yes	No	N/A	VEGETATION
			There is diverse age-class distribution of riparian-wetland vegetation (recruitment for maintenance/recovery)
			There is diverse composition of riparian-wetland vegetation (for maintenance/recovery)
			10) Species present indicate maintenance of riparian-wetland soil moisture characteristics
			11) Vegetation is comprised of those plants or plant communities that have root masses capable of withstanding wind events, wave flow events, or overland flows (e.g., storm events, snowmelt)
			12) Riparian-wetland plants exhibit high vigor
			13) Adequate riparian-wetland vegetative cover is present to protect shoreline/soil surface and dissipate energy during high wind and wave events or overland flows
			14) Frost or abnormal hydrologic heaving is not present
			15) Favorable microsite condition (i.e., woody material, water temperature, etc.) is maintained by adjacent site characteristics

Yes	No	N/A	EROSION/DEPOSITION
			16) Accumulation of chemicals affecting plant productivity/ composition is not apparent
			17) Saturation of soils (i.e., ponding, flooding frequency, and duration) is sufficient to compose and maintain hydric soils
			18) Underlying geologic structure/soil material/permafrost is capable of restricting water percolation
			19) Riparian-wetland is in balance with the water and sediment being supplied by the watershed (i.e., no excessive erosion or deposition)
			20) Islands and shoreline characteristics (i.e., rocks, coarse and/or large woody material) are adequate to dissipate wind and wave event energies

	Remarks
Com	
Sur	nmary Determination
Functional Rating:	
Proper Functioning Condition	
Functional – At Risk Nonfunctional	
Unknown	
Trend for Functional - At Ris	k:
Upward	
Downward	
Not Apparent	
Are factors contributing to unmanager?	nacceptable conditions outside the control of the
Yes	<u></u>
No	
If yes, what are those factors	3?
Dewatering	
Mining activities	
Watershed condition Dredging activities	
Road encroachment	
Land ownership	
Other (specify)	

(Revised 1999)

 TABLE 4-1
 Surface Soil Characteristics of the Bureau of Land Management

Characteristic	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5
Soil movement	Subsoil exposed over much of the area; may have embryonic dunes and wind-scoured depressions	Soil and debris deposited against minor obstructions	Moderate movement of soil is visible and recent; slight terracing	Some movement of soil particles	No visual evidence of movement
Surface rock and/ or litter	Very little remaining (use care on low- productivity sites); if present, surface rock or fragments exhibit some movement and accumulation of smaller fragments behind obstacles	Extreme movement is apparent; large and numerous deposits against obstacle; if present, rock or fragments exhibit some movement and accumulation of smaller fragments behind obstacles	Moderate movement is apparent and fragments are deposited against obstacles; if present, fragments have a poorly developed distribution pattern	May show slight movement; if present, coarse fragments have a truncated appearance or spotty distribution caused by wind and water	Accumulation in place; if present, the distribution of fragments shows no movement caused by wind or water
Pedestaling	Most rocks and plants are pedestaled and roots exposed	Rocks and plants on pedestals are generally evident; plant roots are exposed	Small rock and plant pedestals occurring in flow patterns	Slight pedestaling in flow patterns	No visual evidence of pedestaling
Flow patterns	Flow patterns are numerous and readily noticeable; may have large barren fan deposits	Flow patterns contain silt, sand deposits and alluvial fans	Well defined, small, and few with intermittent deposits	Deposition of particles may be in evidence	No visual evidence of flow patterns
Rills and gullies	May be present at depths of 8 to 15 cm (3 to 6 inches) and intervals of less than 13 cm (5 inches); sharply incised gullies cover most of the area, and 50 percent are actively eroding	Rills at depths of 1 to 15 cm (0.5 to 6 inches) occur in exposed areas at intervals of 150 cm (5 feet); gullies are numerous and well developed, with active erosion along 10 to 50 percent of their lengths or a few well-developed gullies with active erosion along more than 50 percent of their length	Rills at depths of 1 to 15 cm (0.5 to 6 inches)occur in exposed places at approximately 300 cm (10 foot) intervals; gullies are well developed, with active erosion along less than 10 percent of their length; some vegetation may be present	Some rills in evidence at infrequent intervals of over 300 cm (10 feet); evidence of gullies that show little bed or slope erosion; some vegetation is present on slopes	No visual evidence of rills; may be present in stable condition; vegetation on channel bed and side slopes

SOURCE: <u>Rangeland Health:</u> Adapted from U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management. 1973. Determination of Erosion Condition Class, Form 7310-12. May. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of the Interior.

Appendix F-3A

Current Rangeland Health Assessment Results

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Public Acres ¹	Kind of	Period Begin Date	Period End Date	Public	Range Health Assessment Date	Range Health Category ²
2	Oilfield Road		Sheep	12/1	5/31	73		2
3	Naval Pet Res. I		Sheep	12/1	5/31	253	04/05/01	2
5	Blossom Peak		Cattle	3/1	6/1	7	None	N/A
6	Cuyama 2		Cattle	3/1	2/28	80		2
7	Freeborn Mt.		Cattle	3/1	2/28	254	03/14/07	2
8	Pleito Hills		Cattle	3/1	2/28	1,028	*	2
9	Badger Creek		Cattle	4/1	9/30	90	04/25/02	4
10	Santa Rita		Cattle	3/1	9/15	16	06/19/02	1 and 4
12	Live Oak Pass		Cattle	6/1	9/30	70	04/18/07	2
13	Temblor Creek		Cattle	3/1	2/28	82	06/26/02	2
14			Cattle		5/31			2
	Case Mountain North Temblor ³			10/1		423	07/22/98	
15 15	North Temblor North Temblor	34,795		3/1	2/28	7,733	06/28/06	2
15	North Temblor (portion in BKFO managed by CPNM)	137	Cattle Cattle	3/1	5/31	30		
16	Oil Field		Sheep	12/1	5/31	303	02/25/05	2
17	North Fork River		Cattle	3/1	2/28	456	08/12/98	2
19	Buena Vista Creek		Sheep	12/1	5/31	107	04/05/01	2
20	Elephant Back		Cattle	3/1	2/28	16		2
21	Frazer Valley		Cattle	12/1	5/31	184	03/04/10	2
23	Hanning Flat West		Cattle	11/1	5/31	75	04/07/10	2
24	Bear Creek		Cattle	3/1	2/28	10	11/14/07	2
27	Bitterwater Valley	80		3/1	2,20	12		N/A
28	Kettleman Hills		Cattle	12/1	5/31	1,304	03/10/10	2,1 and 4
28	Kettleman Hills	0,210	Cattle	3/1	2/28	1,50.	05/10/10	2,1 4114 1
30	West Klipstein	561	Cattle	3/1	2/28	112	03/22/06	2
32	Hubbard Hill		Cattle	3/1	2/28	418	03/07/07	2
33	Mankins Creek		Cattle	10/1	6/30	80	03/21/07	2
34	North Comb Rocks	230		10/1	0/30	39	None	N/A
35	Red Hill	160				3		N/A
36	Horn Mountain		Cattle	3/1	2/28	65	08/28/03	2
37	Raven Pass		Cattle	9/1	5/31	12		1
38	North Naval Petroleum Res.	2,278		9/1	3/31	380		N/A
39	Chimineas Ranch South ³	4,982				730	None	N/A
40	Rio Bravo	401	Cattle	3/1	2/28	100	04/25/02	4
41	Derby Acres	530				151	None	N/A
42	Jack Canyon	33	Cattle	3/1	2/28	12	04/24/08	2
45	Goldpan Canyon	470	Cattle	3/1	2/28	84	12/16/98	2
47	Rankin Ranch	867	Cattle	3/1	2/28	144	None	N/A
48	Mountain Creek	264	Cattle	3/1	2/28	88	02/23/06	4
49	Loraine		Cattle	3/1	2/28	113	12/16/98	2
50	Santa Barbara Canyon		Cattle	3/1	2/28	118	08/01/02	2
51	Studhorse Canyon		Cattle	11/1	5/31	100	05/11/98	2

Allotment	4.00		Kind of	Period Begin	Period End	Public	Range Health	Range Health
Number	Allotment Name	Acres ¹		Date	Date	AUMs	Assessment Date	Category ²
52	Thompson Ridge	1,250		2/1	2/20	63	None	N/A
54	Willow Spring Canyon		Cattle	3/1	2/28	96		2
55	South Mountain		Cattle	3/1	2/28	23	06/11/08	2
56	Round Mountain Road		Cattle	12/1	5/31	27	10/08/03	2
57	Santiago Creek	2,723	Cattle	3/1	2/28	545	10/23/06	2
57	Santiago Creek	2.120	Cattle	12/1	5/31	211	02/14/07	2
58	Anderson Canyon		Cattle	3/1	2/28	311	03/14/07	2
59	Loco Bill Canyon		Cattle	4/1	9/30	82	05/11/98	2
60	Santa Teresa		Cattle	3/1	2/28	400	06/26/08	2
61	Oak Grove		Cattle	4/1	9/30	235	08/19/98	2
62	Curtis Mountain		Cattle	3/1	2/28	13	None	N/A
63	Chico Martinez	8,602	Cattle	3/1	2/28	1,671	07/14/05	2
63	Chico Martinez	(2.4	Cattle	12/1	5/31	120	0.4/1.4/0.5	2
64	Cedar Canyon	624	Cattle	10/15	6/30	139	04/14/05	2
64	Cedar Canyon	1 1 5 5	Cattle	12/1	5/31	202	00/02/01	
65	Packwood	1,155	Cattle	12/1	5/31	282	08/02/01	1
65	Packwood	0.0	Cattle	3/1	2/28	12	N	27/4
66	Liveoak Canyon	80		2/1	2/20	13	None	N/A
68	San Emigdio		Cattle	3/1	2/28	191	07/17/02	2
71	Rancheria	194		10/1	(/20	49	None	N/A
72	Bluestone Ridge		Cattle	12/1	6/30	668	09/04/98	2
73	Chimineas Ranch North		Cattle	12/1	5/31	759		1
74	Freedom Hill		Cattle	3/1	5/15	539	04/08/98	2
75	Kelso Peak		Cattle	2/1	5/15	154	08/15/01	2
76	Sacatar Meadow		Cattle	9/1	10/31	96	10/09/07	2
77	Walker Pass West	14,566		1/1	6/30	781	01/13/00	2
78	Airport		Cattle	3/1	5/15	176	04/07/10	2
79	Fay Canyon	361	Cattle	3/1	4/30	64	08/15/01	2
80	Smith Canyon	2,760		2/15	10/14	60	None	N/A
81	Nellie's Nipple		Cattle	3/15	10/14	528	01/25/06	2
82	Short Canyon		Cattle	2/1	4/30	150	03/20/98	2
83	Lynch Canyon		Cattle	3/1	4/30	64	12/02/98	2
84	Cyrus Canyon		Cattle	10/1	5/15	225	04/18/02	2
85	Cooks Peak		Cattle	11/1	5/31	217	07/15/99	2
86	Cholla Canyon		Cattle	10/15	6/30	1,825	05/19/03	2
87	Havilah Basin	4,862	Cattle	3/1	2/28	356	03/18/10	2
87	Havilah Basin	40	Cattle	5/1	9/30	50	02/00/00	2
88	Sales Creek ⁴	40	Cattle	3/1	2/28	50	03/08/00	2
			Cattle and					
89	Bodfish	114	horses	3/1	9/30	14	09/09/04	2
90	Wagy Flat	10,138		2/15	4/30	521	09/09/04	2
91	Sulphur Ridge		Cattle	3/1	2/28	34	04/25/07	2
93	Eagle's Nest Peak		Cattle	11/1	5/31	182	02/06/06	2
94	South Comb Rocks		Cattle	10/1	6/30	100	03/21/07	2
95	Progress Gulch		Cattle	3/1	6/30	80	04/18/07	2
96	Maricopa ³		Cattle	12/1	5/31	939		2
96	Maricopa	-,,,,	Cattle	3/1	2/28	7.57		

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Public Acres ¹	Kind of Stock	Period Begin Date	Period End Date	Public AUMs	Range Health Assessment Date	Range Health Category ²
97	Mc Van Oil Field		Cattle	3/1	2/28	34	03/29/01	1
98	Fresno River ⁴		Cattle	5/1	10/31	36	09/07/01	1
99	Bittercreek Drainage		Cattle	3/1	2/28	60	04/28/05	2
100	Dry Creek		Cattle	3/1	2/28	20	07/16/08	2
102	Burnt Point		Cattle	3/1	2/28	79	05/23/07	2
103	Milk Ranch Peak		Cattle	4/15	9/30	133	07/11/07	2
104	Wash Burn Cove		Cattle	10/1	4/15	118	03/28/07	2
106	Western Minerals Road		Cattle	12/1	5/31	308	03/10/98	2
107	Cienaga Canyon		Cattle	12/1	5/31	380	05/10/06	2
108	Paso Robles		Horses	1/1	3/31	3	None	N/A
111	Sand Canyon	2,702		3/1	2/28	365	01/19/00	2
113	Johns Peak		Cattle	3/1	2/28	168	03/13/02	2
114	East Klipstein		Cattle	3/1	9/30	18	03/22/06	2
115	Power Line Road		Sheep	1/1	5/31	36	03/29/01	2
116	Devils Gulch		Cattle	12/1	5/31	120	05/10/06	2
117	Red Mountain	7,317				327	None	N/A
118	Scobie Meadow		Cattle	6/1	10/31	182	06/08/00	2
119	Bald Eagle Peak		Cattle	3/1	2/28	168	03/18/10	2
120	Spanish Needle Creek		Cattle	3/15	6/5	40	07/08/98	2
123	Canebrake		Cattle	1/1	6/30	952	04/17/98	2
124	Long Valley	17,687		10/1	11/30	226	06/12/02	2
125	Kennedy Lamont	44,296		7/1	9/30	396	10/17/07	2
126	Lower Kennedy Table ⁴		Cattle	12/1	5/31	30	03/27/01	2
128	Lwr Hiddenvalley Rch ⁴	1,331		12/1	5/31	236	04/25/05	2
129	Big Sandy ⁴		Cattle	12/1	5/31	225	02/10/00	2
130	Smalley Road ⁴		Cattle	11/15	5/15	188	03/01/00	2
136	Fowler Mountain ⁴	280	Cattle	3/1	2/28	120	09/07/05	2
149	South Fork Kern River	800	Cattle	11/1	6/30	20	07/17/08	1
157	Wheeler Ridge		Cattle	12/1	5/31	144	02/28/07	1 and 4
157	Wheeler Ridge		Cattle	3/1	2/28			
3464	Franciscan	800	Cattle	3/1	2/28	168	08/02/01	2
3655	Wood Canyon ³	204	Cattle	12/1	5/31	5	06/26/02	2
3718	Buena Vista	311	Cattle	3/1	2/28	62	06/26/08	2
3719	Vista Del Mar	165				10	None	N/A
3720	Klau Mine	12				3	None	N/A
3750	San Joaquin River Slope ⁴	857	Cattle	12/1	5/31	240	3/27/01	2
4309	Surprise Arroyo (portion in BKFO managed by HFO)	~1,300	Cattle and Sheep	1/1	4/30	~417		
5008	Rudnick Common (portion in BKFO managed by RFO)	~7,000		3/1	2/28	~412		

¹Acreage figures in this table are approximate and may not correspond with cumulative totals elsewhere in this document.

²1=One or more standards not being met, livestock are significant contributor to failure; 2=All standards being met; 3=Status of one or more standards is unknown or cause of failure unknown; 4=One or more standards not being met due to cause other than livestock grazing (also see Appendix F-1).

³Portion of this allotment lies within the Carrizo Plain National Monument.

⁴Allotments currently directed by the Hollister RMP of 1984.

APPENDIX F-4

Selective Management Categories for Grazing Allotments

The Bureau began categorizing allotments upon the issuance of Instruction Memorandum No. 82-292 on March 5, 1982. That memorandum established the selective management approach to rangeland management. The selective management policy is intended to provide our agency with a logical and consistent system of prioritizing our management implementation needs by identifying those allotments needing the most management emphasis in regards to our capabilities at hand. The Bakersfield Field Office felt this policy was quite useful in helping to organize our many management priorities. In the 1997 Caliente RMP we redefined the categories and criteria described in IM-82-292 to fit our needs and put emphasis on the values we use intuitively to prioritize our management efforts. We have developed and continue to use the following three categories:

(I) <u>Intensive</u>: Concentrate effort in areas which require intensive management.

(M) <u>Moderate</u>: Provide moderate level of effort to maintain condition or effect change.

(C) <u>Continue</u>: Manage custodially, while protecting existing resource values and condition.

The following standard and optional criteria are being used in the Bakersfield Field Office to place allotments into the three identified categories.

Standard Criteria Used to Categorize Grazing Allotments

Resource Objective

Are the resources near, at, or far from their desired condition? Is intensive management effort required to reach objective or maintain stable condition, or will objective be met without much outside effort?

Resource Trend

Are resources moving toward objective, moving away from objective, or are they stable? Are apparent resource conditions improving or declining?

Present Management

Is present management satisfactory to meet long term management objectives? Is present management contributing to maintaining or meeting resource objectives? If resource conditions need improving, will a change in present management effect any change in resource trend toward objective?

Resource Use Conflicts/ Controversy

Do serious resource use conflicts exist which require special management emphasis? Is the allotment important to many user groups? Do special or sensitive resources, including special status species, exist which may require intensive management?

Optional Criteria Used to Categorize Grazing Allotments

Amount of Public Land

Does the percentage of Federal land within the management unit restrict implementation of desired changes? Is management change infeasible due to limited public lands within the management unit?

Cooperation

Does the grazing operator maintain existing projects and will future projects be maintained? Is the grazing operator willing to work with the Bureau in implementing management prescriptions?

Economic Return

What is the likelihood of positive economic return on public investment? Are desired resource objectives and proposed changes economically feasible?

Each allotment is rated separately based on the described standard criteria and the following scorecard:

SELECTIVE I	MANAGEMENT CATEG	GORY	
STANDARD CRITERIA	I	М	С
Resource Objective:	Far below desired condition.	Near or at desired condition.	Near desired condition.
Resource Trend:	Stable, moving toward objective, or moving away from objective.	Stable, or moving toward objective.	Stable, or moving toward objective.
Effect of Present Management:	Present management not satisfactory to maintain or reach objectives.	Present management contributing toward maintaining or meeting objectives.	Present management contributing toward maintaining or meeting objectives.
Resource Conflicts:	Conflicts evident.	Conflicts limited.	Conflicts minimal.
TOTAL SCORE:			
OPTIONAL CRITERIA	I	М	С
Amount of Public Land:	> 60%, Change possible.	59%-10%, Change restricted.	<10%, Change not feasible.
Cooperation:	Low level of cooperation.		Cooperative and reliable.
Economic Return:	Positive return.	Possible return.	Return not likely.
TOTAL SCORE:			

After evaluating an allotment and selecting a management category for each of the standard criteria, an obvious category assignment is usually indicated. However, in the instance that the scores between two management classes for a given allotment is even after applying the standard criteria, then the optional criteria are used to make the final category assignment.

The identification of management categories is a dynamic process. When the resource situation of an allotment changes following the implementation of management decisions, the allotment may be recategorized. The monitoring to support recategorization need not be limited to the type of monitoring typically used to manage livestock grazing (i.e., utilization, mulch, actual use, weather, trend and condition). Information from any source (e.g., wildlife, watershed, special status plant and animal, or archeological monitoring) may serve to make apparent and justify the need for recategorization. Due to time limitations, the categories printed in the allocation table of this document do not reflect the use of these newly developed criteria. The Field Office staff, in cooperation and consultation with affected grazing lessees/permittees and interested parties, will re-evaluate and categorize each allotment in order to determine management emphasis for the future.

APPPENDIX F-5
Livestock Grazing Implementation Levels; Alternative A

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Public Acres ¹	Mgmt. Status ²	Type Auth. ³	Kind Of Stock	Period Begin Date	Period End Date	Public Aums
2	Oilfield Road	440	M	15	Sheep	12/1	5/31	73
3	Naval Pet Res. I	1,518	M	15	Sheep	12/1	5/31	253
5	Blossom Peak	80	C	15	Cattle	3/1	6/1	7
6	Cuyama 2	480	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	80
7	Freeborn Mt.	1,804	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	254
8	Pleito Hills	3,423	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	1,028
9	Badger Creek	480	С	15	Cattle	4/1	9/30	90
10	Santa Rita	160	С	15	Cattle	3/1	9/15	16
12	Live Oak Pass	280	С	15	Cattle	6/1	9/30	70
13	Temblor Creek	328	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	82
14	Case Mountain	5,576	I	15	Cattle	10/1	5/31	423
15	North Temblor ⁴	34,795	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	7,733
15	North Temblor ⁴	0	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	0
15	North Temblor (Portion in BKFO Managed by CPNM)	137	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	30
16	Oil Field	4,270	M	15	Sheep	12/1	5/31	303
17	North Fork River	5,693	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	456
19	Buena Vista Creek	720	M	15	Sheep	12/1	5/31	107
20	Elephant Back	80	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	16
21	Frazer Valley	1,694	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	184
23	Hanning Flat West	754	С	3	Cattle	11/1	5/31	75
24	Bear Creek	405	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	10
27	Bitterwater Valley	80	С	15				12
28	Kettleman Hills	5,216	I	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	1,304
28	Kettleman Hills	0	I	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	0
30	West Klipstein	561	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	112
32	Hubbard Hill	3,080	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	418
33	Mankins Creek	476	С	15	Cattle	10/1	6/30	80
34	North Comb Rocks	230	С	15				39
35	Red Hill	160	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	3
36	Horn Mountain	1517	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	65
37	Raven Pass	40	С	15	Cattle	9/1	5/31	12
38	North Naval Petroleum Res.	2,278	I	15				380
39	Chimineas Ranch South ⁴	4,982	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	730
40	Rio Bravo	401	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	100
41	Derby Acres	530	С	15				151
42	Jack Canyon	33	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	12
45	Goldpan Canyon	470	I	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	84
47	Rankin Ranch	867	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	144
48	Mountain Creek	264	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	88
49	Loraine	678	I	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	113
50	Santa Barbara Canyon	1,734	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	118
51	Studhorse Canyon	498	M	3	Cattle	11/1	5/31	100
52	Thompson Ridge	1,250	M	15	Cattle	5/1	7/31	63
54	Willow Spring Canyon	480	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	96

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Public Acres ¹	Mgmt. Status ²	Type Auth. ³	Kind Of Stock	Period Begin Date	Period End Date	Public Aums
55	South Mountain	186	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	23
56	Round Mountain Road	160	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	27
57	Santiago Creek	2,723	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	545
57	Santiago Creek	0	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	0
58	Anderson Canyon	2,120	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	311
59	Loco Bill Canyon	640	I	15	Cattle	4/1	9/30	82
60	Santa Teresa	1,883	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	400
61	Oak Grove	2,901	I	15	Cattle	4/1	9/30	235
62	Curtis Mountain	40	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	13
63	Chico Martinez	8,602	I	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	1,671
63	Chico Martinez	0	I	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	0
64	Cedar Canyon	624	С	15	Cattle	10/15	6/30	139
64	Cedar Canyon	0	С	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	0
65	Packwood	1,155	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	282
65	Packwood	0	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	0
66	Liveoak Canyon	80	С	15				13
68	San Emigdio	650	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	191
71	Rancheria	194	C	15		0,12		49
72	Bluestone Ridge	2,673	M	15	Cattle	12/1	6/30	668
73	Chimineas Ranch North	3,949	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	759
74	Freedom Hill	2,278	I	3	Cattle	3/1	5/15	539
75	Kelso Peak	768	M	3	Cattle	2/1	5/15	154
76	Sacatar Meadow	6,320	C	3	Cattle	9/1	10/31	96
77	Walker Pass West	14,566	I	3	Cattle	1/1	6/30	781
78	Airport	1,759	M	3	Cattle	3/1	5/15	176
79	Fay Canyon	361	C	3	Cattle	3/1	4/30	64
80	Smith Canyon	2,760	M	3	Cattle	3/1	7/30	60
81	Nellie's Nipple	3,885	M	3	Cattle	3/15	10/14	528
82	Short Canyon	3,260	I	3	Cattle	2/1	4/30	150
83	Lynch Canyon	510	C	3	Cattle	3/1	4/30	64
84	Cyrus Canyon	2,236	M	3	Cattle	10/1	5/15	225
85	Cooks Peak	2,111	C	3	Cattle	11/1	5/31	217
86	Cholla Canyon	4,572	M	3	Cattle	10/15	6/30	1,825
87	Havilah Basin	4,862	M	3	Cattle	3/1	2/28	356
87	Havilah Basin	0	M	3	Cattle	5/1	9/30	0
88	Sales Creek	40	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	50
					Cattle &			
89	Bodfish	114	C	3	Horses	3/1	9/30	14
90	Wagy Flat	10,138	M	3	Cattle	2/15	4/30	521
91	Sulphur Ridge	506	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	34
93	Eagle's Nest Peak	680	C	15	Cattle	11/1	5/31	182
94	South Comb Rocks	399	C	15	Cattle	10/1	6/30	100
95	Progress Gulch	480	С	15	Cattle	3/1	6/30	80
96	Maricopa ⁴	5,979	I	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	939
96	Maricopa ⁴	0	I	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	0
97	Mc Van Oil Field	200	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	34
98	Fresno River	160	С	15	Cattle	5/1	10/31	36
99	Bittercreek Drainage	240	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	60

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Public Acres ¹	Mgmt. Status ²	Type Auth.3	Kind Of Stock	Period Begin Date	Period End Date	Public Aums
100	Dry Creek	160	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	20
102	Burnt Point	1,493	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	79
103	Milk Ranch Peak	1,652	С	15	Cattle	4/15	9/30	133
104	Wash Burn Cove	628	M	15	Cattle	10/1	4/15	118
106	Western Minerals Rd.	1,540	I	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	308
107	Cienaga Canyon	1,902	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	380
108	Paso Robles	20	С	15	Horses	1/1	3/31	3
111	Sand Canyon	2,702	I	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	365
113	Johns Peak	1,040	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	168
114	East Klipstein	90	С	15	Cattle	3/1	9/30	18
115	Power Line Road	215	M	15	Sheep	1/1	5/31	36
116	Devils Gulch	600	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	120
117	Red Mountain	7,317	I	15				327
118	Scobie Meadow	6,890	M	3	Cattle	6/1	10/31	182
119	Bald Eagle Peak	2,400	M	3	Cattle	3/1	2/28	168
120	Spanish Needle Creek	3,160	I	3	Cattle	3/15	6/5	40
123	Canebrake	8,238	M	3	Cattle	1/1	6/30	952
124	Long Valley	17,687	M	3	Cattle	10/1	11/30	226
125	Kennedy Lamont	44,296	M	3	Cattle	7/1	9/30	396
126	Lower Kennedy Table	105	M	15	Cattle	9/15	5/31	30
128	Lwr Hiddenvalley Rch	1,331	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	236
129	Big Sandy	813	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	225
130	Smalley Road	540	M	15	Cattle	11/15	5/15	188
136	Fowler Mountain	280	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	120
149	South Fork Kern River	800	С	3	Cattle	11/1	6/30	20
157	Wheeler Ridge	480	С	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	144
157	Wheeler Ridge	0	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	0
3464	Franciscan	800	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	168
3655	Wood Canyon ⁴	204	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	5
3718	Buena Vista	311	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	62
3719	Vista Del Mar	165	С	15				10
3720	Klau Mine	12	С	15				3
3750	San Joaquin River Slope	857	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	240
	Surprise Arroyo (~ Portion in	1 200		1.5	Cattle &	1/1	4/20	41.7
4309	BKFO Managed by HFO)	1,300	I	15	Sheep	1/1	4/30	~417
5008	Rudnick Common (~ Portion in BKFO Managed by RFO)	7,000	I	3	Cattle	3/1	2/28	~412
3000	211 O Managou by Rt O)	7,000	1	<u> </u>	Cuttie	5/1	2,20	34,526
	Available for application	20,800						3,100
	Estimated potential grazing opportuinity ⁵	20,000						37,626

¹Acreage figures in this table are approximate and may not correspond with cumulative totals elsewhere in this document.

²C=Continue, M=Moderate, I=Intensive (also see Selective Management Categories in Appendix F-4).

³3=Grazing permits issued on public lands within the grazing districts established under the Taylor Grazing Act; 15=Grazing leases on public lands outside the original grazing district boundaries.

⁴Portion of this allotment lies within the Carrizo Plain National Monument.

⁵Total of authorized AUMs and projected future authorized AUMs, under the assumptions that 75% of acres available for application would be authorized and given a stocking rate of 5 acres/AUM.

Livestock Grazing Implementation Levels; Alternative B

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Public Acres ¹	Mgmt. Status ²	Type Auth. ³	Kind Of Stock	Period Begin Date	Period End Date	Public Aums
2	Oilfield Road	440	M	15	Sheep	12/1	5/31	73
3	Naval Pet Res. I	1,518	M	15	Sheep	12/1	5/31	253
5	Blossom Peak	80	С	15	Cattle	3/1	6/1	7
6	Cuyama 2	480	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	80
7	Freeborn Mt.	1,804	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	254
8	Pleito Hills	3,423	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	1,028
9	Badger Creek	480	С	15	Cattle	4/1	9/30	90
10	Santa Rita	160	С	15	Cattle	3/1	9/15	16
12	Live Oak Pass	280	С	15	Cattle	6/1	9/30	70
13	Temblor Creek	328	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	82
14	Case Mountain	3,903	I	15	Cattle	10/1	5/31	296
15	North Temblor ⁴	34,795	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	7,733
	North Temblor ⁴	Í	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	0
	North Temblor (Portion in							
	BKFO Managed by CPNM)	137	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	30
16	Oil Field	4,270	M	15	Sheep	12/1	5/31	303
17	North Fork River	5,693	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	456
19	Buena Vista Creek	720	M	15	Sheep	12/1	5/31	107
20	Elephant Back	80	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	16
21	Frazer Valley	1,694	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	184
23	Hanning Flat West	302	С	3	Cattle	11/1	5/31	30
24	Bear Creek	405	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	10
27	Bitterwater Valley	80	С	15				12
28	Kettleman Hills	5,216	I	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	1,304
	Kettleman Hills		I	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	0
30	West Klipstein	561	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	112
32	Hubbard Hill	3,080	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	418
33	Mankins Creek	476	C	15	Cattle	10/1	6/30	80
34	North Comb Rocks	230	С	15				39
35	Red Hill	160	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	3
36	Horn Mountain	1,517	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	65
37	Raven Pass	40	С	15	Cattle	9/1	5/31	12
38	North Naval Petroleum Res.	2,278	I	15				380
39	Chimineas Ranch South ⁴	4,982	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	730
40	Rio Bravo	401	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	100
41	Derby Acres	530	C	15				151
42	Jack Canyon	33	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	12
45	Goldpan Canyon	470	I	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	84
47	Rankin Ranch	867	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	144
48	Mountain Creek	264	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	88
49	Loraine	678	I	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	113
50	Santa Barbara Canyon	1,734	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	118
51	Studhorse Canyon	498	M	3	Cattle	11/1	5/31	100
52	Thompson Ridge	1,250	M	15	Cattle	5/1	7/31	63
54	Willow Spring Canyon	480	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	96
55	South Mountain	186	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	23
56	Round Mountain Road	160	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	27

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Public Acres ¹	Mgmt. Status ²	Type Auth. ³	Kind Of Stock	Period Begin Date	Period End Date	Public Aums
57	Santiago Creek	2,723	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	545
	Santiago Creek	2,725	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	0
58	Anderson Canyon	2,120	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	311
59	Loco Bill Canyon	640	I	15	Cattle	4/1	9/30	82
60	Santa Teresa	1,883	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	400
61	Oak Grove	2,901	I	15	Cattle	4/1	9/30	235
62	Curtis Mountain	40	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	13
63	Chico Martinez	8,602	I	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	1,671
	Chico Martinez	0,002	I	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	0
64	Cedar Canyon	624	С	15	Cattle	10/15	6/30	139
0.1	Cedar Canyon	021	C	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	0
65	Packwood	1,155	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	282
	Packwood	1,100	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	0
66	Liveoak Canyon	80	C	15	Cuttie	5/1	2/20	13
68	San Emigdio	650	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	191
71	Rancheria	194	С	15	Cutto	5/1	2,20	49
72	Bluestone Ridge	2,673	M	15	Cattle	12/1	6/30	668
73	Chimineas Ranch North	3,949	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	759
74	Freedom Hill	2,278	I	3	Cattle	3/1	5/15	539
75	Kelso Peak	768	M	3	Cattle	2/1	5/15	154
76	Sacatar Meadow	6,320	C	3	Cattle	9/1	10/31	96
77	Walker Pass West	14,566	I	3	Cattle	1/1	6/30	781
78	Airport	967	M	3	Cattle	3/1	5/15	97
79	Fay Canyon	361	C	3	Cattle	3/1	4/30	64
80	Smith Canyon	2,760	M	3	Cattic	3/1	7/30	60
81	Nellie's Nipple	3,885	M	3	Cattle	3/15	10/14	528
82	Short Canyon	3,260	I	3	Cattle	2/1	4/30	150
83	Lynch Canyon	510	С	3	Cattle	3/1	4/30	64
84	Cyrus Canyon	67	M	3	Cattle	10/1	5/15	7
85	Cooks Peak	2,111	C	3	Cattle	11/1	5/31	217
86	Cholla Canyon	4,572	M	3	Cattle	10/15	6/30	1,825
87	Havilah Basin	4,862	M	3	Cattle	3/1	2/28	356
07	Havilah Basin	7,002	M	3	Cattle	5/1	9/30	
88	Sales Creek	40	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	50
- 00	Sures creek	10		13	Cattle &	5/1	2/20	30
89	Bodfish	114	C	3	Horses	3/1	9/30	14
90	Wagy Flat	10,138	M	3	Cattle	2/15	4/30	521
91	Sulphur Ridge	506	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	34
93	Eagle's Nest Peak	680	С	15	Cattle	11/1	5/31	182
94	South Comb Rocks	399	С	15	Cattle	10/1	6/30	100
95	Progress Gulch	480	С	15	Cattle	3/1	6/30	80
96	Maricopa ⁴	5,979	I	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	939
	Maricopa ⁴		I	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	0
97	Mc Van Oil Field	200	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	34
98	Fresno River	160	С	15	Cattle	5/1	10/31	36
99	Bittercreek Drainage	240	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	60
100	Dry Creek	160	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	20
102	Burnt Point	1,493	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	79
103	Milk Ranch Peak	1,652	С	15	Cattle	4/15	9/30	133

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Public Acres ¹	Mgmt. Status ²	Type Auth. ³	Kind Of Stock	Period Begin Date	Period End Date	Public Aums
104	Wash Burn Cove	628	M	15	Cattle	10/1	4/15	118
106	Western Minerals Rd.	1,540	I	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	308
107	Cienaga Canyon	1,902	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	380
108	Paso Robles	20	С	15	Horses	1/1	3/31	3
111	Sand Canyon	2,702	I	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	365
113	Johns Peak	1,040	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	168
114	East Klipstein	90	С	15	Cattle	3/1	9/30	18
115	Power Line Road	215	M	15	Sheep	1/1	5/31	36
116	Devils Gulch	600	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	120
117	Red Mountain	7,317	I	15				327
118	Scobie Meadow	6,890	M	3	Cattle	6/1	10/31	182
119	Bald Eagle Peak	2,400	M	3	Cattle	3/1	2/28	168
120	Spanish Needle Creek	3,160	I	3	Cattle	3/15	6/5	40
123	Canebrake	8,238	M	3	Cattle	1/1	6/30	952
124	Long Valley	17,687	M	3	Cattle	10/1	11/30	226
125	Kennedy Lamont	44,296	M	3	Cattle	7/1	9/30	396
126	Lower Kennedy Table	105	M	15	Cattle	9/15	5/31	30
128	Lwr Hiddenvalley Rch	1,331	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	236
129	Big Sandy	813	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	225
130	Smalley Road	540	M	15	Cattle	11/15	5/15	188
136	Fowler Mountain	280	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	120
149	South Fork Kern River	744	С	3	Cattle	11/1	6/30	19
157	Wheeler Ridge	480	С	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	144
	Wheeler Ridge		С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	0
3464	Franciscan	800	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	168
3655	Wood Canyon ⁴	204	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	5
3718	Buena Vista	311	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	62
3719	Vista Del Mar	165	С	15				10
3720	Klau Mine	12	С	15				3
3750	San Joaquin River Slope	857	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	240
4309	Surprise Arroyo (~ Portion in BKFO Managed by HFO)	1,300	I	15	Cattle & Sheep	1/1	4/30	~417
5008	Rudnick Common (~ Portion in BKFO Managed by RFO)	7,000	I	3	Cattle	3/1	2/28	~412
								34,056
	Available for application	40,000						6,000
14	Estimated potential grazing opportunity ⁵				4-4-11			40,056

Acreage figures in this table are approximate and may not correspond with cumulative totals elsewhere in this document.

Red highlight indicates that livestock grazing use of the allotment was modified by the actions of the Alternative compared to the No Action Alternative. The level that is allowed to continue to be authorized on the allotment is shown in the row.

²C=Continue, M=Moderate, I=Intensive (also see Selective Management Categories in Appendix F-4).

³3=Grazing permits issued on public lands within the grazing districts established under the Taylor Grazing Act; 15=Grazing leases on public lands outside the original grazing district boundaries.

⁴Portion of this allotment lies within the Carrizo Plain National Monument.

⁵Total of authorized AUMs and projected future authorized AUMs, under the assumptions that 75% of acres available for application would be authorized and given a stocking rate of 5 acres/AUM.

Livestock Grazing Implementation Levels; Alternative C

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Public Acres ¹	Mgmt. Status ²	Type Auth. ³	Kind Of Stock	Period Begin Date	Period End Date	Public Aums
2	Oilfield Road	440	M	15	Sheep	12/1	5/31	73
3	Naval Pet Res. I	1,518	M	15	Sheep	12/1	5/31	253
5	Blossom Peak	80	С	15	Cattle	3/1	6/1	7
6	Cuyama 2	480	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	80
7	Freeborn Mt.	1,804	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	254
8	Pleito Hills	3,423	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	1,028
9	Badger Creek	480	С	15	Cattle	4/1	9/30	90
10	Santa Rita	160	С	15	Cattle	3/1	9/15	16
12	Live Oak Pass	280	С	15	Cattle	6/1	9/30	70
13	Temblor Creek	328	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	82
14	Case Mountain	3,903	I	15	Cattle	10/1	5/31	296
15	North Temblor ⁴	34,795	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	7,733
	North Temblor ⁴		M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	0
	North Temblor (Portion in							
	BKFO Managed by CPNM)	137	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	30
16	Oil Field	4,270	M	15	Sheep	12/1	5/31	303
17	North Fork River	4,839	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	388
19	Buena Vista Creek	720	M	15	Sheep	12/1	5/31	107
20	Elephant Back	80	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	16
21	Frazer Valley	1,694	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	184
23	Hanning Flat West	302	С	3	Cattle	11/1	5/31	30
24	Bear Creek	405	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	10
27	Bitterwater Valley	80	C	15				12
28	Kettleman Hills	5,216	I	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	1.304
	Kettleman Hills		I	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	0
30	West Klipstein	561	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	112
32	Hubbard Hill	3,080	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	418
33	Mankins Creek	438	С	15	Cattle	10/1	6/30	74
34	North Comb Rocks	230	C	15				39
35	Red Hill	160	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	3
36	Horn Mountain	1,517	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	65
37	Raven Pass	40	C	15	Cattle	9/1	5/31	12
38	North Naval Petroleum Res.	2,278	I	15				380
39	Chimineas Ranch South ⁴	4,982	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	730
40	Rio Bravo	401	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	100
41	Derby Acres	530	C	15				151
42	Jack Canyon	33	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	12
45	Goldpan Canyon	235	I	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	34
47	Rankin Ranch	867	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	144
48	Mountain Creek	264	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	88
49	Loraine	678	I	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	113
50	Santa Barbara Canyon	1,734	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	118
51	Studhorse Canyon	498	M	3	Cattle	11/1	5/31	100
52	Thompson Ridge	1,250	M	15	Cattle	5/1	7/31	63
54	Willow Spring Canyon	480	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	96
55	South Mountain	186	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	23
56	Round Mountain Road	160	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	27

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Public Acres ¹	Mgmt. Status ²	Type Auth. ³	Kind Of Stock	Period Begin Date	Period End Date	Public Aums
57	Santiago Creek	2,723	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	545
	Santiago Creek	,,,	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	0
58	Anderson Canyon	2,120	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	311
59	Loco Bill Canyon	640	I	15	Cattle	4/1	9/30	82
60	Santa Teresa	1,883	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	400
61	Oak Grove	2,901	I	15	Cattle	4/1	9/30	235
62	Curtis Mountain	40	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	13
63	Chico Martinez	8,602	I	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	1,671
	Chico Martinez	0,002	I	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	0
64	Cedar Canyon	624	C	15	Cattle	10/15	6/30	139
0.1	Cedar Canyon	021	C	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	0
65	Packwood	1,155	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	282
	Packwood	1,100	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	0
66	Liveoak Canyon	80	C	15	Cuttle	5/1	2/20	13
68	San Emigdio	650	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	191
71	Rancheria	194	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/20	49
72	Bluestone Ridge	2,673	M	15	Cattle	12/1	6/30	668
73	Chimineas Ranch North	3,949	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	759
74	Freedom Hill	2,278	I	3	Cattle	3/1	5/15	539
75	Kelso Peak	768	M	3	Cattle	2/1	5/15	154
76	Sacatar Meadow	6,320	C	3	Cattle	9/1	10/31	96
77		14,566	I	3	Cattle	1/1	6/30	
78	Walker Pass West	967	M	3	Cattle	3/1	5/15	781 97
79	Airport		C	3				64
80	Fay Canyon	361	M	3	Cattle	3/1	4/30	
81	Smith Canyon	2,760	M	3	Cattle	2/15	10/14	60
81	Nellie's Nipple	3,885		3	Cattle	3/15	10/14 4/30	528
	Short Canyon	3,260	I		Cattle	2/1		150
83	Lynch Canyon	510	C	3	Cattle	3/1	4/30	64
84	Cyrus Canyon	67	M	3	Cattle	10/1	5/15	7
85	Cooks Peak	2,111	C	3	Cattle	11/1	5/31	217
86	Cholla Canyon	4,572	M	3	Cattle	10/15	6/30	1,825
87	Havilah Basin	4,862	M	3	Cattle	3/1	2/28	356
	Havilah Basin	40	M	3	Cattle	5/1	9/30	
88	Sales Creek	40	С	15	Cattle &	3/1	2/28	50
89	Bodfish	114	С	3	Horses	3/1	9/30	14
90	Wagy Flat	4,562	M	3	Cattle	2/15	4/30	234
91	Sulphur Ridge	506	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	34
93	Eagle's Nest Peak	680	C	15	Cattle	11/1	5/31	182
93	South Comb Rocks	399	C	15	Cattle	10/1	6/30	100
95	Progress Gulch	389	C	15	Cattle	3/1	6/30	65
95	Maricopa ⁴		I	15				
96	Maricopa ⁴	5,979	I		Cattle	12/1	5/31	939
07		200	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	0 24
97	Mc Van Oil Field	200		15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	34
98	Fresno River	147	С	15	Cattle	5/1	10/31	33
99	Bittercreek Drainage	240	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	60
100	Dry Creek	160	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	20
102	Burnt Point	1,120	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	59
103	Milk Ranch Peak	1,652	C	15	Cattle	4/15	9/30	133

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Public Acres ¹	Mgmt. Status ²	Type Auth. ³	Kind Of Stock	Period Begin Date	Period End Date	Public Aums
104	Wash Burn Cove	628	M	15	Cattle	10/1	4/15	118
106	Western Minerals Rd.	1,540	I	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	308
107	Cienaga Canyon	1,902	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	380
108	Paso Robles	20	С	15	Horses	1/1	3/31	3
111	Sand Canyon	2,702	I	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	365
113	Johns Peak	1,040	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	168
114	East Klipstein	90	С	15	Cattle	3/1	9/30	18
115	Power Line Road	215	M	15	Sheep	1/1	5/31	36
116	Devils Gulch	600	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	120
117	Red Mountain	7,317	I	15				327
118	Scobie Meadow	6,890	M	3	Cattle	6/1	10/31	182
119	Bald Eagle Peak	2,400	M	3	Cattle	3/1	2/28	168
120	Spanish Needle Creek	3,160	I	3	Cattle	3/15	6/5	40
123	Canebrake	7,991	M	3	Cattle	1/1	6/30	923
124	Long Valley	17,687	M	3	Cattle	10/1	11/30	226
125	Kennedy Lamont	44,296	M	3	Cattle	7/1	9/30	396
126	Lower Kennedy Table	105	M	15	Cattle	9/15	5/31	30
128	Lwr Hiddenvalley Rch	1,331	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	236
129	Big Sandy	813	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	225
130	Smalley Road	540	M	15	Cattle	11/15	5/15	188
136	Fowler Mountain	280	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	120
149	South Fork Kern River	744	С	3	Cattle	11/1	6/30	19
157	Wheeler Ridge	480	С	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	144
	Wheeler Ridge		C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	0
3464	Franciscan	800	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	168
3655	Wood Canyon ⁴	204	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	5
3718	Buena Vista	311	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	62
3719	Vista Del Mar	165	C	15				10
3720	Klau Mine	12	C	15				3
3750	San Joaquin River Slope	857	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	240
	Surprise Arroyo (Portion in				Cattle &			
4309	Bkfo managed by Hfo)	1,300	I	15	Sheep	1/1	4/30	~417
5008	Rudnick Common (Portion in Bkfo managed by Rfo)	7,000	I	3	Cattle	3/1	2/28	~412
	Assailable Community of the	26.700		+				32,275
	Available for application Estimated potential grazing	36,700						5,500
1	opportunity ⁵							37,775

Acreage figures in this table are approximate and may not correspond with cumulative totals elsewhere in this document.

Red highlight indicates that livestock grazing use of the allotment was modified by the actions of the Alternative compared to the No Action Alternative. The level that is allowed to continue to be authorized on the allotment is shown in the row.

²C=Continue, M=Moderate, I=Intensive (also see Selective Management Categories in Appendix F-4).

³3=Grazing permits issued on public lands within the grazing districts established under the Taylor Grazing Act; 15=Grazing leases on public lands outside the original grazing district boundaries.

⁴Portion of this allotment lies within the Carrizo Plain National Monument.

⁵Total of authorized AUMs and projected future authorized AUMs, under the assumptions that 75% of acres available for application would be authorized and given a stocking rate of 5 acres/AUM.

Livestock Grazing Implementation Levels; Alternative D

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Public Acres ¹	Mgmt. Status ²	Type Auth. ³	Kind Of Stock	Period Begin Date	Period End Date	Public Aums
	North Temblor (Portion in BKFO							
15	Managed by CPNM)	137	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	30
					Cattle			
	Surprise Arroyo (~ Portion In				&			
4309	BKFO Managed by HFO)	1,300	I	15	Sheep	1/1	4/30	~417
	Rudnick Common (~ Portion in							
5008	BKFO Managed by RFO)	7,000	I	3	Cattle	3/1	2/28	~412
								859
	Available for application	0						0
	Estimated potential grazing							
	opportuinity ⁴							859

¹Acreage figures in this table are approximate and may not correspond with cumulative totals elsewhere in this document.

²C=Continue, M=Moderate, I=Intensive (also see Selective Management Categories in Appendix F-4).

³3=Grazing permits issued on public lands within the grazing districts established under the Taylor Grazing Act; 15=Grazing leases on public lands outside the original grazing district boundaries.

⁴Total of authorized AUMs and projected future authorized AUMs, under the assumptions that 75% of acres available for application would be authorized and given a stocking rate of 5 acres/AUM.

Livestock Grazing Implementation Levels; Alternative E

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Public Acres ¹	Mgmt. Status ²	Type Auth. ³	Kind Of Stock	Period Begin Date	Period End Date	Public Aums
2	Oilfield Road	440	M	15	Sheep	12/1	5/31	73
3	Naval Pet Res. I	1,518	M	15	Sheep	12/1	5/31	253
5	Blossom Peak	80	С	15	Cattle	3/1	6/1	7
6	Cuyama 2	480	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	80
7	Freeborn Mt.	1,804	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	254
8	Pleito Hills	3,423	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	1,028
9	Badger Creek	480	С	15	Cattle	4/1	9/30	90
10	Santa Rita	160	С	15	Cattle	3/1	9/15	16
12	Live Oak Pass	280	С	15	Cattle	6/1	9/30	70
13	Temblor Creek	328	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	82
14	Case Mountain	3,903	I	15	Cattle	10/1	5/31	296
15	North Temblor ⁴	34,795	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	7,733
	North Temblor ⁴		M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	0
	North Temblor (Portion in BKFO							
	Managed by CPNM)	137	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	30
16	Oil Field	4,270	M	15	Sheep	12/1	5/31	303
17	North Fork River	5,693	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	456
19	Buena Vista Creek	720	M	15	Sheep	12/1	5/31	107
20	Elephant Back	80	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	16
21	Frazer Valley	1,694	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	184
23	Hanning Flat West	739	C	3	Cattle	11/1	5/31	74
24	Bear Creek	405	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	10
27	Bitterwater Valley	80	C	15				12
28	Kettleman Hills	5,216	I	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	1,304
	Kettleman Hills		I	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	0
30	West Klipstein	561	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	112
32	Hubbard Hill	3,080	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	418
33	Mankins Creek	476	C	15	Cattle	10/1	6/30	80
34	North Comb Rocks	230	C	15				39
35	Red Hill	160	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	3
36	Horn Mountain	1,517	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	65
37	Raven Pass	40	C	15	Cattle	9/1	5/31	12
38	North Naval Petroleum Res.	2,278	I	15				380
39	Chimineas Ranch South ⁴	4,982	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	730
40	Rio Bravo	401	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	100
41	Derby Acres	530	C	15				151
42	Jack Canyon	33	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	12
45	Goldpan Canyon	470	I	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	84
47	Rankin Ranch	867	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	144
48	Mountain Creek	264	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	88
49	Loraine	678	Ι	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	113
50	Santa Barbara Canyon	1,734	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	118
51	Studhorse Canyon	498	M	3	Cattle	11/1	5/31	100
52	Thompson Ridge	1,250	M	15	Cattle	5/1	7/31	63
54	Willow Spring Canyon	480	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	96
55	South Mountain	186	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	23
56	Round Mountain Road	160	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	27

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Public Acres ¹	Mgmt. Status ²	Type Auth. ³	Kind Of Stock	Period Begin Date	Period End Date	Public Aums
57	Santiago Creek	2,723	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	545
	Santiago Creek	, in the second second	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	0
58	Anderson Canyon	2,120	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	311
59	Loco Bill Canyon	640	I	15	Cattle	4/1	9/30	82
60	Santa Teresa	1,883	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	400
61	Oak Grove	2,901	I	15	Cattle	4/1	9/30	235
62	Curtis Mountain	40	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	13
63	Chico Martinez	8,602	I	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	1,671
	Chico Martinez	,	I	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	0
64	Cedar Canyon	624	С	15	Cattle	10/15	6/30	139
	Cedar Canyon		С	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	0
65	Packwood	1,155	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	282
	Packwood	,	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	0
66	Liveoak Canyon	80	C	15				13
68	San Emigdio	650	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	191
71	Rancheria	194	C	15				49
72	Bluestone Ridge	2,673	M	15	Cattle	12/1	6/30	668
73	Chimineas Ranch North	3,949	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	759
74	Freedom Hill	2,278	I	3	Cattle	3/1	5/15	539
75	Kelso Peak	768	M	3	Cattle	2/1	5/15	154
76	Sacatar Meadow	6,320	C	3	Cattle	9/1	10/31	96
77	Walker Pass West	14,566	I	3	Cattle	1/1	6/30	781
78	Airport	1,671	M	3	Cattle	3/1	5/15	167
79	Fay Canyon	361	C	3	Cattle	3/1	4/30	64
80	Smith Canyon	2,760	M	3	Cuttre	5/1	1/50	60
81	Nellie's Nipple	3,885	M	3	Cattle	3/15	10/14	528
82	Short Canyon	3,260	I	3	Cattle	2/1	4/30	150
83	Lynch Canyon	510	C	3	Cattle	3/1	4/30	64
84	Cyrus Canyon	2,234	M	3	Cattle	10/1	5/15	225
85	Cooks Peak	2,111	C	3	Cattle	11/1	5/31	217
86	Cholla Canyon	4,572	M	3	Cattle	10/15	6/30	1,825
87	Havilah Basin	4,862	M	3	Cattle	3/1	2/28	356
0,1	Havilah Basin	1,002	M	3		5/1	9/30	
88	Sales Creek	40	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	50
		114		2	Cattle &			
89	Bodfish	114	С	3	Horses	3/1	9/30	14
90	Wagy Flat	10,138	M	3	Cattle	2/15	4/30	521
91	Sulphur Ridge	506	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	34
93	Eagle's Nest Peak	680	С	15	Cattle	11/1	5/31	182
94	South Comb Rocks	399	С	15	Cattle	10/1	6/30	100
95	Progress Gulch	480	С	15	Cattle	3/1	6/30	80
96	Maricopa ⁴	5,979	I	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	939
0=	Maricopa ⁴	200	I	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	0
97	Mc Van Oil Field	200	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	34
98	Fresno River	160	C	15	Cattle	5/1	10/31	36
99	Bittercreek Drainage	240	C	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	60
100	Dry Creek	160	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	20
102	Burnt Point	1,493	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	79

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103	Milk Ranch Peak	1,652	C	15	Cattle	4/15	9/30	133
104	Wash Burn Cove	628	M	15	Cattle	10/1	4/15	118
106	Western Minerals Rd.	1,540	I	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	308
107	Cienaga Canyon	1,902	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	380
108	Paso Robles	20	С	15	Horses	1/1	3/31	3
111	Sand Canyon	2,702	I	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	365
113	Johns Peak	1,040	С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	168
114	East Klipstein	90	С	15	Cattle	3/1	9/30	18
115	Power Line Road	215	M	15	Sheep	1/1	5/31	36
116	Devils Gulch	600	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	120
117	Red Mountain	7,317	I	15				327
118	Scobie Meadow	6,890	M	3	Cattle	6/1	10/31	182
119	Bald Eagle Peak	2,400	M	3	Cattle	3/1	2/28	168
120	Spanish Needle Creek	3,160	I	3	Cattle	3/15	6/5	40
123	Canebrake	8,238	M	3	Cattle	1/1	6/30	952
124	Long Valley	17,687	M	3	Cattle	10/1	11/30	226
125	Kennedy Lamont	44,296	M	3	Cattle	7/1	9/30	396
126	Lower Kennedy Table	105	M	15	Cattle	9/15	5/31	30
128	Lwr Hiddenvalley Rch	1,331	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	236
129	Big Sandy	813	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	225
130	Smalley Road	540	M	15	Cattle	11/15	5/15	188
136	Fowler Mountain	280	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	120
149	South Fork Kern River	744	С	3	Cattle	11/1	6/30	19
157	Wheeler Ridge	480	С	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	144
	Wheeler Ridge		С	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	0
3464	Franciscan	800	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	168
3655	Wood Canyon ⁴	204	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	5
3718	Buena Vista	311	M	15	Cattle	3/1	2/28	62
3719	Vista Del Mar	165	С	15				10
3720	Klau Mine	12	С	15				3
3750	San Joaquin River Slope	857	M	15	Cattle	12/1	5/31	240
4309	Surprise Arroyo (~ Portion in BKFO Managed by HFO)	1,300	I	15	Cattle & Sheep	1/1	4/30	~417
5008	Rudnick Common (~ Portion in BKFO Managed by RFO)	7,000	I	3	Cattle	3/1	2/28	~412
								34,388
	Available for application Estimated potential grazing	52,400						7,900
	opportuinity ⁵							42,288

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Red highlight indicates that livestock grazing use of the allotment was modified by the actions of the Alternative compared to the No Action Alternative. The level that is allowed to continue to be authorized on the allotment is shown in the row.

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³3=Grazing permits issued on public lands within the grazing districts established under the Taylor Grazing Act; 15=Grazing leases on public lands outside the original grazing district boundaries.

⁴Portion of this allotment lies within the Carrizo Plain National Monument.

⁵Total of authorized AUMs and projected future authorized AUMs, under the assumptions that 75% of acres available for application would be authorized and given a stocking rate of 5 acres/AUM.